



Grand Reopening

Kerry Calls for Democracy as US Flag is Raised in Cuba


U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry watches the raising of the American flag at the newly opened U.S. Embassy in Havana, Cuba, Friday, Aug. 14, 2015. Kerry presided Friday over the flag raising ceremony in Havana as the United States and Cuba re-establish diplomatic relations after more than 54 years.
(AP Photo/Ismael Francisco, Cubadebate) Page 2



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Kerry Calls for Democracy as US Flag is Raised in Cuba

B. KLAPPER
M. WEISSENSTEIN
Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Jubilant crowds waved American flags and chanted "Long live the United States!" as the Stars and Stripes rose over the newly reopened U.S. Embassy in Cuba on Friday after a half-century of often-hostile relations. Secretary of State John Kerry celebrated the day but also made an extraordinary, nationally broadcast call for democratic change on the island.

Hundreds of Cubans mixed with American tourists outside the former U.S. Interests Section, newly emblazoned with the letters "Embassy of the United States of America." They cheered as Kerry spoke, the United States Army Brass Quintet played "The Star-Spangled Banner" and U.S. Marines raised the flag alongside the building overlooking the famous Malecon sea-side promenade.

Meeting more than 54 years after the severing of diplomatic relations, Kerry and Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez set an early September date for the start of talks on full normalization of a relationship so long frozen in enmity.

Not all the talk was as warm as the sunny summer day. Kerry and Rodriguez said their nations would continue to disagree over issues such as democracy and human rights. But they also said they hoped to make progress on issues ranging from maritime security and public health to the billions of dollars in dueling claims over confiscation of U.S. property and the U.S. economic embargo on the island.

It seemed that virtually all of Cuba was glued to television or listening by cell-phone as Kerry directly addressed the island's people on political reform. That's a subject that has remained off-limits in Cuba even as the single-party government has implemented a series of economic reforms and re-established diplomatic ties with the U.S.

"We remain convinced the



Bodyguards stand next to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry as he waves goodbye before getting on a car after a stroll in Old Havana, Cuba, Friday, Aug. 14, 2015. Kerry walked in the historic San Francisco plaza, stopping to look in shops and greet local residents and store owners.

(AP Photo/Ramon Espinosa)

people of Cuba would be best served by a genuine democracy, where people are free to choose their leaders, express their ideas, practice their faith," Kerry said. He spoke before an audience of Cuban and U.S. diplomats on the embassy grounds and hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of islanders watching and listening live. Addressing reporters with

Kerry after the ceremony, Rodriguez responded by indignantly opening his remarks with complaints of U.S. human rights transgressions — from police shootings of black men to mistreatment of prisoners at Guantanamo Bay, the U.S. naval base that Cuba says must be returned.

"Cuba isn't a place where there's racial discrimination, police brutality or

deaths resulting from those problems," Rodriguez said. "The territory where torture occurs and people are held in legal limbo isn't under Cuban jurisdiction."

Many Cubans disagree with that assessment, including Afro-Cubans who say discrimination is still rampant despite the revolution's egalitarian ideals, and human rights groups who say regular, short-term



A journalist stands next to people as they wait behind barriers to catch a glimpse of the flag raising ceremony near the U. S. Embassy in Havana, Cuba, Friday, Aug. 14, 2015. U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry traveled to the Cuban capital to raise the U.S. flag and formally reopen the long-closed U.S. Embassy. Cuba and the U.S. officially restored diplomatic relations July 20.

(AP Photo/Desmond Boylan)

arrests of government opponents aim to intimidate dissent and include beatings.

In New York, Republican presidential contender Marco Rubio, a Cuban-American senator from Florida, said he would reverse the Obama administration's new Cuba policy on his first day in office, arguing it gives the Castro government international legitimacy and more resources to repress its people.

Kerry acknowledged that the Obama administration would have a difficult fight in Congress to end the U.S. trade embargo of Cuba so that normal business ties between the two countries could resume.

"There is no way Congress will lift the embargo if we are not making progress on issues of conscience," Kerry said.

President Barack Obama also called for change in Cuba when he announced the new U.S. policy of engagement in December, but his words were less pointed than Kerry's in Havana.

Cuba formally reopened its Washington embassy last month. The U.S. raised its flag in Havana then, too, though saving the formal ceremony for Kerry's visit. Three Marines who took part in the flag-lowering in 1961 handed over the new flag to Marines who raised it on Friday.

Kerry was the first secretary of state to visit since 1945, and his speech was remarkable for its bluntness and the national spotlight in which it came.

Many Cubans lauded Kerry's call for reform, including greater access to technology on an island with one of the world's lowest rates of internet penetration. They paired their praise with calls for the United States to lift the 53-year-old trade embargo and allow easier travel between the two countries.

"More democracy, elections, we hope for that to come with this diplomatic opening," said Julio Garcia, a 51-year-old mechanic. □



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AP EXCLUSIVE: Top secret Clinton emails include drone talk

BRADLEY KLAPPER
KEN DILANIAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Neither of the two emails sent to Hillary Rodham Clinton now labeled by intelligence agencies as “top secret” contained information that would jump out to experts as particularly sensitive, according to several government officials. Still, it’s looking increasingly likely the issue of whether Clinton mishandled classified information on her home-brew email server will have significant political implications in the 2016 presidential campaign. Clinton, the front-runner for the Democratic nomination, agreed this week to turn over to the FBI the

private server she used as secretary of state. And Republicans in Congress have seized on the involvement of federal law enforcement in the matter as a sign she was negligent in handling U.S. secrets. While polls show Clinton retains a commanding lead over her Democratic presidential rivals, her attempts to focus her campaign on issues like education and economic recovery have been complicated by constant questions surrounding her decision to run her State Department email correspondence through an unsecured system set up at her suburban New York home. One of the now “top secret” emails included a



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton listens to a home care worker during a roundtable discussion on home care in Los Angeles.

(AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

discussion of a U.S. drone strike, part of a covert program that is widely known and discussed. A second conversation could have

improperly referred to highly classified material, but it also could have reflected information collected independently, U.S. officials

who have reviewed the correspondence told The Associated Press.

On Monday, the inspector general for the 17 spy agencies that make up what is known as the intelligence community told Congress that two of 40 emails, in a random sample of 30,000 messages that Clinton gave the State Department for review, contained information deemed “Top Secret,” one of the government’s highest levels of classification. While neither of the emails was marked classified at the time they were sent, they have since been slapped with a “TK” marking, for “Talent Keyhole,” suggesting material obtained by spy satellites. □

Democrats undeclared on Iran deal heed voters, not ads

ANDREW TAYLOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) It was supposed to be a long and uncomfortable August for Democrats undecided about President Barack Obama’s nuclear deal with Iran, but so far the political heat brought on by opponents of the much-contested accord is more of a simmer than a boil. Millions of dollars in television and online advertisements by an offshoot of the powerful American Israel Political Action Committee are aimed at more than a

dozen states represented by undecided Democrats. The accord would curb Iran’s nuclear program in exchange for relief from economic sanctions, and the House and Senate are set to vote next month on a resolution of disapproval. “Iran has violated 20 international agreements and the leading state sponsor of terrorism,” says the ad by Citizens for a Nuclear Free Iran, the AIPAC-sponsored group. “Congress should reject a bad deal.” As political ads go, experts agree, the commercial is

pretty tame. It doesn’t ask viewers to take any action like calling their senator or congressman. And it doesn’t name names. A Republican Party strategist, Charlie Black, says a harder-hitting approach would turn off the very Democratic voters the group would like to lobby their lawmakers. Many Democratic lawmakers are already upset that they’ve been cast as anti-Israel and were summoned for a stern lecture by Israel’s President Benjamin Netanyahu in a joint meeting of

Congress in March.

A group called Vets Against the Deal has produced a much tougher ad featuring an Iraq War veteran who was badly wounded by a blast from an Iranian-made bomb. “Every politician who is involved in this will be held accountable. They will have blood on their hands,” says retired Staff Sgt. Robert Bartlett, whose facial scars are evident. It’s not clear how large a media buy the group is making. The ad won lots of attention from conservative websites, and Bartlett

appeared on Fox News.

Another group, United Against Nuclear Iran, is also running ads. It’s headed by former Independent Sen. Joe Lieberman. As the campaigns play out, it’s appearing increasingly likely that Democrats in the House and Senate will be able to muster the votes to sustain a certain veto by Obama. Sen. Chuck Schumer of New York, the chamber’s powerful Democratic leader-in-waiting, is the only senator of his party to publicly come out against the deal. □



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Islamic State leader raped American hostage, US finds



In this May 30, 2013, photo, Kayla Mueller is shown after speaking to a group in Prescott, Ariz. The parents of the late American hostage Kayla Mueller say they were told by American officials that their daughter was repeatedly forced to have sex with Abu Bakr Baghdadi, the leader of the Islamic State group.

(AP Photo/The Daily Courier, Jo. L. Keener)

KEN DILANIAN
AP Intelligence Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — American hostage Kayla Mueller was repeatedly forced to have sex with Abu Bakr Baghdadi, the leader of the Islamic State group, U.S. intelligence officials told her family in June. The news is but the latest in a litany of horrors perpetrated by the Islamic State group, which has beheaded, burned and crucified male captives while passing around women as sex slaves.

Mueller was held for a time by Islamic State financier Abu Sayyaf and his wife, known as Umm Sayyaf. Al-Baghdadi took Mueller as a "wife," repeatedly raping her when he visited, according to a Yazidi teenager who was held with Mueller and escaped in October 2014.

The 14-year-old made her way to Iraqi Kurdistan, where she talked to U.S. commandos in November 2014. Intelligence agencies corroborated her account and American officials passed it on to her parents in June.

"They told us that he married her, and we all understand what that means," Carl Mueller, Kayla's father, told The Associated Press on Friday, which would have been his daughter's 27th birthday. Her death was reported in February. Her mother, Marsha Mueller, added, "Kayla did not marry this man. He took her to his room and he abused her and she came back crying."

Umm Sayyaf confirmed that al-Baghdadi had "owned" Kayla during Umm Sayyaf's lengthy American interrogation in Iraq, the Muellers said they were told by American of-

ficials.

A U.S. official confirmed their account, first reported by London's Independent newspaper. The official was not authorized to be quoted by name and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Abu Sayyaf was killed in a Delta Force raid of his Syrian compound in June, which resulted in a treasure trove of intelligence about the Islamic State group. Umm Sayyaf has been turned over to the Iraqi Kurds for trial.

The Muellers have been told she can be expected to serve a long prison sentence, said a family spokeswoman, Emily Lenzner.

Mueller was held with three other women, all Yazidis, the Muellers were told. All were sexually abused. When al-Baghdadi visited, he would take Mueller to his room, the witness told American officials. She would tell her fellow captives — sometimes tearfully — what had happened.

"Kayla tried to protect these young girls," her mother said. "She was like a mother figure to them."

When the teenaged Yazidi girl escaped with her sister, she asked Mueller to accompany her, the parents were told, but Kayla refused, worrying that her obvious Western appearance would lead to their capture.

By the time the Yazidi escapee reported the situation to Delta Force commandos in Iraq, Kayla had been moved, her parents were told.

U.S. intelligence officials found information on Sayyaf's computer indicating that Mueller, who spoke some Arabic, had been searching for information about fertility to help Umm Sayyaf. □

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Relatives upset family wasn't helped before US shooting

JUAN A. LOZANO

Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Relatives of a couple and their six children who were fatally shot in their home in Houston can't understand why it took authorities four visits and repeated emergency calls before going inside, a family friend said Friday.

Jesi Greening, a spokeswoman for the family, shared with reporters Facebook messages that one of the victims, Valerie Jackson, had sent to her mother in Minnesota saying she was being held at gunpoint. One of the messages indicated Jackson was alive after police first visited the home on Aug. 8, Greening said.

"It just doesn't make sense to us that the house was not entered much, much earlier," Greening said from Minnesota during a conference call.

Jackson's ex-domestic partner, David Conley, 48, remains jailed, facing capital murder charges in the deaths of the six children and two adults. Authorities say Conley handcuffed most of the eight family members and eventually shot each of them in the head. His attorney hasn't returned messages seeking

comment.

Killed in the shooting were: Jackson, 40; her husband, Dwayne Jackson, 50; and her children, 13-year-old Nathaniel, 11-year-old Honesty, 10-year-old Dwayne, 9-year-old Caleb, 7-year-old Trinity and 6-year-old Jonah. Authorities say Nathaniel was Conley's son from his relationship with Valerie Jackson, while the Jacksons were the parents of the other five children.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office on Thursday released a timeline of events from last weekend's deadly shooting that showed deputies made four separate visits to the house over about a nine-hour period before going inside.

Deputy Thomas Gilliland, a sheriff's office spokesman, didn't immediately return a phone call seeking comment Friday.

But investigators have said that they didn't have enough information to go into the home until they saw the body of one of the children through a window during the fourth visit.

Greening said that on the day of the shooting, Valerie Jackson had first made three posts on Facebook, writing that she needed help, for someone to call police and that this wasn't

a joke.

At 10:23 a.m., Jackson's

ing on?"

According to the sheriff's

had with Valerie."

At 12:15 p.m., Jackson's



David Conley is escorted out of courtroom in Houston. Conley, who has a violent criminal history, entered a Houston home through an unlocked window and fatally shot a woman he'd previously dated, her husband and six children, including a boy believed to be his own son, authorities said. He is charged with capital murder in the deaths.

(AP Photo/David J. Phillip)

mother, Barbara Yanske, got a private message on Facebook from her daughter that read "911 911 911 911."

At 10:27 a.m., Jackson sent another message that said, "He has phone and will ring. DVD has gun."

At 10:45 a.m., Yanske replied, "I called. What's go-

office, deputies first arrived at the home at 10:49 a.m. According to Greening, at 11:57 a.m., Jackson sent another message to her mother saying, "Tuhey knck left."

"It's spelled a little bit funny but it's clearly, 'They knock left,'" Greening said. "That was the last contact we

family is told by the sheriff's office that no one responded when deputies knocked and they didn't have probable cause to enter, Greening said.

"How it wasn't probable cause when they are being told that someone has a gun inside, we don't understand that," she said. □



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Lawyers: Immigrant family detention lengthy, unsafe in US



Immigrants from El Salvador and Guatemala who entered the country illegally board a bus after they were released from a family detention center in San Antonio. A group of immigrant rights lawyers say that detention of women and children caught crossing the U.S.-Mexico border illegally is lengthy and unsafe, challenging the government's claims that immigrant families are held only briefly and that their detention doesn't violate a longstanding ban.

(AP Photo/Eric Gay)

SETH ROBBINS
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Immigrant rights lawyers say the detention of women and children caught crossing the U.S.-Mexico border illegally is lengthy and unsafe, and they are challenging the government's claims that immigrant families are held only briefly and that their detention doesn't vio-

late a longstanding ban. In a filing Thursday to a U.S. District judge in California, the group of lawyers also said the health and safety of immigrant children is being jeopardized by "hopelessly inadequate" medical and psychological care at the detention facilities where they say the families are routinely kept for more than a month.

The government has said the mothers and children are held for just weeks while their asylum claims are processed. But the lawyers said the families are held for longer because immigration officials delay the screening and processing of asylum claims and routinely hinder access to legal help, and because bonds are too high for the

women to pay to secure their release.

"Children are placed at risk every day," the lawyers said in the filing.

The government poured millions of dollars into two large detention centers in Texas for women and children after tens of thousands of immigrant families, mostly mothers with children from Central America, crossed the Rio Grande into the U.S. last summer.

A third, smaller facility, is in Pennsylvania.

All are overseen by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement but managed by private prison operators. They currently hold some 1,400 people, down from more than 2,000 earlier this summer.

Homeland Security and ICE officials have said they aim to release families as soon as they pass interviews that are the first hurdle to being granted asylum. In recent weeks, more women have been fitted with ankle monitors when released from detention, sometimes

under pressure and after bonds have been set, the lawyers said in the filing.

In late July, the judge ruled that Homeland Security should release all children from the centers "without unnecessary delay," along with any mothers not deemed a flight or national security risk.

Many have petitioned for asylum after fleeing gang and domestic violence back home.

Last week, Homeland Security attorneys asked the judge to reconsider her ruling, saying detention times have been shortened and that further limiting family detention could spark another surge in immigrants from Central America.

The lawyers asked the judge to implement her earlier ruling calling for the quick release of detained women and children.

Peter Schey, one of the lead attorneys and executive director of the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law, called the policy of detaining children inhumane. □

Coal company, Montana tribe sign onto Washington coal port

MATTHEW BROWN
Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — A Wyoming company has entered a partnership to develop a Washington state coal port for shipments of the fuel to Asia, in a deal that gives Montana's Crow Tribe the future option of a 5 percent stake in the project.

Cloud Peak Energy paid \$2 million up front and will pay up to \$30 million to cover permitting expenses for the Gateway Pacific Terminal,

in exchange for a 49 percent stake in the project, spokesman Rick Curtsinger said Friday.

The port in the Puget Sound, just south of the U.S.-Canada border, would accommodate almost 60 million tons a year of coal and other commodities.

Cloud Peak, based in Gillette, plans to construct a major mine on the Crow Reservation.

Coal companies hope exports to Asia will shore up their industry, which has

been battered by competition from cheap natural gas and more stringent restrictions on pollution caused by burning the fuel. Port sponsor SSA Marine retained a 51 percent ownership in the project. The tribe's stake in the port would come out of Cloud Peak's share, and Curtsinger said there is no upfront financial obligation for the Crow. However, if the Crow exercises its ownership option, the tribe would be responsible for 5 percent

of construction financing, Curtsinger said.

Washington state's Lummi Nation has pressed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to deny the project's permit because it would disrupt the tribe's fishing practices. The proposal also has met strong opposition from environmental groups worried about the greenhouse gases and other pollutants produced by burning coal. Crow Chairman Darren Old Coyote said the deal still needs approval from the

tribal Legislature. Construction of the port would make it easier for Cloud Peak to develop and mine coal on the reservation, he said.

"It's basically a low-risk, 5 percent stake," he said.

Construction costs for Gateway Pacific have been estimated at \$700 million, although that could change depending on any conditions attached to pending permits from state and federal agencies, said SSA Marine Senior Vice President Bob Watters. □

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Hold it! San Francisco uses paint to fight public urination

KRISTIN J. BENDER

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Public urination has gotten so bad in San Francisco that the city has painted nine walls with a repellant paint that makes pee spray back on the offender.

It's the latest effort to address a chronic problem in a city where the head of public works calls himself Mr. Clean: Walls are coated with a clear, liquid repellant material that goes on much like paint. Any urine that hits it splashes back on a person's shoes and pants.

Mohammed Nuru, director of San Francisco's public works department, says offenders will need to make the mistake only once to get the idea.

"If you have to go," he said, "go in the right place."

Nuru got the idea from Germany, where walls in Hamburg's St. Pauli quarter are painted with the material to encourage late-night beer drinkers to find a bathroom rather than an alleyway.

Public urination has long been a problem in San Francisco, where a light pole corroded by urine recently fell on a car. The city appears to be the only one



An attendant looks on as a man enters a Pit Stop public toilet outside a Mission District transit station in San Francisco. The Pit Stop, located by a public wall covered with a repellant paint that makes pee spray back on the offender, is a project operated by San Francisco Public Works that provides portable toilets and sinks and is part of the city's latest attempt to clean up urine-soaked alleyways and walls. (AP Photo/Eric Risberg)

in the nation using Ultra-Ever Dry from a Florida-based company, and it's already receiving a stream of queries about the product's success.

"We are getting calls from all over the place: Washington, D.C., Hawaii and Oakland," said Nuru, who Tweets under the handle @MrCleanSF.

Potential offenders get fair warning about the consequences of urinating on the coated walls that sit on public and private property around the city.

Signs hanging above some walls read: "Hold it! This wall is not a public restroom. Please respect San Francisco and seek relief in an appropriate place."

Other efforts also are underway to stop or curb public urination.

Solar-powered toilets roll through city streets several afternoons a week, attendants are manning public toilets to encourage people to use them, and city crews will check thousands of light posts to make sure they won't topple.

Public urination is a health concern, and keeping the city clean is a 24-7 battle, said Kevin Sporer, superintendent of the building repair bureau.

The new paint is paying off. "There's a lot less activity, and the result is noticeable," Sporer said.

Public urination is illegal, but a fine of up to \$500 passed in San Francisco in 2002 has seen little success.

On a recent weekday, resident Jon Kolb was in a public transit plaza in the Mission district, where crews recently painted a low wall with the liquid repellant paint.

Kolb said he believes the idea is a good one. He has seen people who sleep in the plaza become visibly upset when others do their business on the walls.

"People will actually get violent about it," Kolb said. But will the paint really be a deterrent?

"It would be to me," he said.

The paint and the labor to apply the material have cost the city only a few hundred dollars, as opposed to the \$80 an hour to steam clean walls and sidewalks. □

Beer of champions? Wheaties teams up with brewery

CANDICE CHOI

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — These Wheaties may not be so good with milk.

Wheaties says it is partnering with a craft brewery to create a limited-edition beer. The 16-ounce cans will only be available in the Minneapolis-St. Paul market starting Aug. 26, according to Wheaties parent company General Mills.

It's not exactly clear what makes it Wheaties beer,

besides being made from wheat.

General Mills says the beer will be called HefeWheaties in a nod to a German style of beer called hefeweizen, which is typically made with more than 50 percent malted wheat.

"We're not saying it's a breakfast beer, but we're not saying it's not," said Ryan Petz, president of Fulton Brewery, the Minneapolis-based brewery that is making the beer.

Petz said the beer is also intended to tie his company to heritage of Minneapolis, which is also home to General Mills' headquarters. Fulton will consider making the beer more widely available depending on how people react to the initial run, he said.

Mike Siemienas, a General Mills spokesman, said the company left the development of the beer to Fulton. He declined to say whether the company plans to tap an athlete or celebrity

to endorse the beer.

The companies also declined to disclose the financial terms of their agreement. But it could be one way General Mills counters struggling cereal sales, which have suffered as Americans increasingly reach for options like Greek yogurt or fast-food breakfast sandwiches in the morning.

Wheaties in particular has seen sales declines, and is a tiny part of General Mills' cereal business, said

Jared Koerten, an analyst for market researcher Euromonitor International. Last year, sales of Wheaties in the U.S. were \$19.5 million, according to Euromonitor. That's down from \$63.7 million in 2006.

Koerten noted that Wheaties faces strong competition from other cereal "flakes" such as Kellogg's Raisin Bran, that promise some type of extra feature. By comparison, he noted that Wheaties are very plain. □

Greece's euro partners approve billions in new loans

LORNE COOK
JOHN DAHLBURG
Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — Finance ministers of the 19-nation euro single currency group on Friday approved the first 26 billion euros (\$29 billion) of a vast new bailout package to help rebuild Greece's shattered economy.

The approval came after Greece's parliament passed a slew of painful reforms and spending cuts after a marathon overnight session that divided the governing party, raising the specter of early elections.

"Of course there were differences but we have managed to solve the last issues," Eurogroup chairman Jeroen Dijsselbloem told reporters in Brussels. "All the intense work of the past week has paid off." Ten billion euros will be available to recapitalize Greece banks, while a second slice of 16 billion euros will be paid in installments, starting with 13 billion euros by Aug. 20 when Greece must make a new debt



Dutch Finance Minister and chairman of the eurogroup Jeroen Dijsselbloem, right, walks with European Central Bank Governor Mario Draghi during a meeting of eurozone finance ministers at the EU Council building in Brussels on Friday, Aug. 14, 2015. (AP Photo/Laurent Dubrule)

payment to the European Central Bank.

"On this basis, Greece is and will irreversibly remain a member of the Euro area," said European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker after the deal was sealed.

The final rescue package would eventually give Greece up to 86 billion euros (\$93 billion) in loans

over three years in exchange for harsh spending cuts and tax hikes.

The deal must still be approved by some national parliaments, including Germany, but that is largely considered to be a formality. Some nations, such as Finland, have already given their approval.

The move saves Greece from a disorderly default

on its debts which could have come as soon as next week and helps end months of uncertainty that has shaken world markets, but it means more hardship for ordinary Greeks.

Greece's most influential creditor and perhaps its harshest critic welcomed the agreement as "a good result."

"We must nonetheless re-

main cautious because of course we are providing huge sums of money," German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble said.

"If the Greeks don't want this program, it won't work," he told ZDF television. "But that's why we are only paying out step by step and making sure that we don't make the risks greater than is inevitable if we want to help Greece."

A key sticking point has been whether to forgive some of Greece's debts.

The International Monetary Fund has insisted that Greece must be given some form of debt relief before it will participate in any new bailout, but a number of the country's euro partners oppose such a move.

"It is equally critical for medium and long-term debt sustainability that Greece's European partners make concrete commitments ... to provide significant debt relief, well beyond what has been considered so far," IMF chief Christine Lagarde said in a statement. □

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Mediterranean migrant crossings near 250,000

NICHOLAS PAPHITIS
Associated Press

KOS, Greece (AP) — A giant passenger ferry reached the Greek holiday island of Kos Friday, to provide temporary accommodation for crowds of Syrian refugees sleeping rough after crossing clandestinely from Turkey in flimsy boats.

Also Friday, the International Organization for Migration said the number of migrants and asylum-seekers who have crossed the Mediterranean to Europe this year will pass the quarter-million mark by the end of the month — more than half of them arriving in Greece.

The Eleftherios Venizelos ferry, which can take up to 2,500 people, will function from Saturday as a screening center where Syrians can stay as they wait for temporary travel documents to leave the island and continue their journeys

to other parts of Europe. It will replace an old stadium criticized for its lack of basic amenities, where Greek authorities working intensively have screened and issued documents to about 7,000 Syrians since Monday.

Major-General Zacharoula Tsirigoti, head of the Greek police's aliens and border protection branch, said all the Syrians who had arrived on Kos by late Thursday have now been screened. She said the ferry will stay on for about two weeks to cater to new arrivals, whose numbers are expected to drop off as weather conditions deteriorate in the autumn.

Late Friday, about 1,900 Syrians, clasping their papers in their hands, queued patiently in a fenced-off part of Kos harbor to get on an Athens-bound ferry. Another 2,000 Syrians left Kos on Wednesday and

Thursday, considerably reducing the overall number of people trapped on the island. "I feel so good," said Omar Mohammad, as he entered a checkpoint where harbor police checked documents and ferry tickets. "Wish me luck." The 25-year-old English literature graduate from Aleppo arrived on a beach on Kos on Wednesday, in his third attempt to reach the island. Two previous ones were thwarted by Turkish police. Just on the other side of the quay, dozens of rubber boats that had been used by refugees and confiscated by the coast guard bobbed up and down, tied up alongside a number of seized wooden yachts.

Many still contained the detritus of the voyage — orange or red life vests for adults and tiny inflatable ones with cartoon characters for babies. □

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Philippines to open base near disputed sea

Associated Press
SUBIC, Philippines (AP) — The Philippines will go ahead with a plan to open military camps at Subic Bay facing the disputed South China Sea even if a proposed American military presence doesn't happen, Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin said Friday. Gazmin unveiled plans two years ago to open air force and navy camps at the Subic Bay Freeport so fighter jets and frigates can respond faster to any contingency in the disputed waters. The shift to Subic was decided as territorial tensions grew among China, the Philippines and four other governments. The Philippines signed an accord last year allowing American forces to be temporarily stationed in camps including Subic, but left-wing groups have questioned the pact's constitutionality before the Supreme Court. Gazmin said the government will soon begin constructing the bases even if the court eventually decides against allowing American access. "That's a very strategic location because it's facing the West Philippine Sea," Gazmin said, using the Philippine name for the South China Sea. Subic Bay, about 80 kilometers (50 miles) northwest of Manila, used to host Washington's largest naval base outside the American mainland until it was closed in 1992, ending nearly a century of U.S. military presence. Three years later, China seized a strategic reef also claimed by Manila, prompting Philippine senators to ratify a pact that allowed American forces to return for annual combat drills. □

Japan: Abe stops short of apology for World War II

KEN MORITSUGU
MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press
TOKYO (AP) — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe acknowledged Friday that Japan inflicted "immeasurable damage and suffering" on innocent people in World War II, but stopped short of offering his own apology and said future generations of Japanese should not have to make them either. In a widely anticipated statement marking the 70th anniversary of his country's surrender, he said instead that Japan's repeated past "heartfelt apologies" would remain unshakeable in the future. "On the 70th anniversary of the end of the war, I bow my head deeply before the souls of all those who perished both at home and abroad," Abe said in a 25-minute address delivered live on national television. "I express my feelings of profound grief and my eternal, sincere condolences." The statement was closely watched by Japan's neighbors, especially South Korea and China, and it was unclear whether it would satisfy them. China's official Xinhua News Agency called



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe delivers a statement to mark the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II during a press conference at his official residence in Tokyo Friday, Aug. 14, 2015. Abe has expressed "profound grief" for all who perished in World War II in a statement marking the 70th anniversary of the country's surrender.

(AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)

Japan's statement a diluted apology at best, and "a crippled start to build trust among its neighbors." "Abe trod a fine line with linguistic tricks, attempting to please his right-wing base on the one hand and avoid further damage in Japan's ties with its neighbors on the other," it said. Resentment over invasion, occupation and atrocities

by the Japanese Imperial Army before and during the war still bedevils relations between Japan and the East Asian countries seven decades after Tokyo's surrender on Aug. 15, 1945. The statement got a cool reaction from U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who is South Korean. "The secretary-general has

taken note of the message ... and is studying it," U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said. "As the secretary-general has said previously, he hopes that based on reflection and understanding of history the countries concerned can achieve a genuine reconciliation and build peace and prosperity collectively in the region." □

Kashmir villagers flee amid Pakistan-India violence

MUNIR AHMED
Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistan and India traded heavy gunfire on Friday, killing one person and forcing villagers in divided Kashmir to flee to safety even as the Pakistani president renewed his offer of talks with India to resolve the issue of the disputed region. A Pakistani woman was killed and her two daughters and husband were

wounded when an Indian mortar struck their home in the Nezapir sector of the divided region, the Pakistani military said. The two nuclear-armed archrivals have a history of uneasy relations and regularly exchange fire over the disputed boundary, the latest coming as Pakistan celebrated Independence Day. Pakistan won independence from Britain on Aug.

14, 1947, and marks the date each year with rallies and other celebrations. In a televised speech on Friday, Pakistani President Mamnoon Hussain said his nation believes in "peaceful co-existence" with India, though it would not compromise if its defense and security came under threat. "We want to resolve all outstanding issues, including Kashmir, with India," he told

a gathering of students, government and military officials in the capital, Islamabad. Security was tight and troops guarded the Convention Center where Hussain, along with Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, hoisted the national flag. Since 1947, Pakistan and India have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir, which is claimed by both countries. □

Thousands of Iraqis rally in support of government reforms



Demonstrators chant in support of Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi as they wave national flags during a demonstration in Tahrir Square in Baghdad, Iraq, Friday, Aug. 14, 2015. Thousands of people demonstrated in cities across Iraq on Friday to show support for a reform plan put forth by the prime minister this week while still demanding that greater measures be taken to target corruption and restore basic services.
 (AP Photo/Karim Kadim)

VIVIAN SALAMA
Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Thousands of people demonstrated in cities across Iraq on Friday to show support

for a reform plan put forth by the prime minister this week while still demanding that greater measures be taken to target corruption and restore basic services.

People sang, chanted and played music at the demonstrations, the largest of which were in the cities of Baghdad, Babel, Basra and al-Kut. Brig. Gen.

Saad Maan, spokesman for Iraq's interior ministry, estimated some 14,000 people were protesting in Baghdad alone.

The crowds waved Iraqi flags and banners showing their support for the first of several reform measures from Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi. "With our souls and our blood, we sacrifice for you, oh Iraq!" they chanted.

On Sunday, al-Abadi responded to the demands of protesters and a call by the country's most revered Shiite cleric to target corruption and curb reckless government spending. His plan, unanimously approved by parliament Tuesday, eliminates the three vice presidencies and the three deputy prime minister posts. The reforms also expand the powers of the prime minister, allowing him to sack provincial governors and the heads of provincial and local councils.

Al-Abadi also vowed Wednesday to hold a referendum to make changes to the constitution, saying he wants to correct "mistakes." He has not elaborated on what changes he wants to make.

Still, most of those gathered in Baghdad's Tahrir Square and elsewhere in the country said Iraq's problems are far from resolved.

The demonstrators continued to call on the government to improve basic services, particularly the electricity grid. Chronic power outages amid searing summer heat spurred the latest round of protests two weeks ago — a shortfall that actually dates back to 2003 shortly after the U.S.-led invasion. They also demanded that the government take a tough stance on the corrupt judiciary.

"No services, no electricity, no water, unemployment, Iraq is finished," said Oday Jassim, 25, in Baghdad. "There are no schools, no education, no healthcare — we're destroyed!"

Calls to dissolve the parliament and stop judicial corruption were among the demands of the day, with protesters chanting "Medhat Mahmoud: Illegitimate!" referring to the head of the country's supreme judicial council.



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Yemeni women stage a rare protest in rebel-held capital

AHMED AL-HAJ
Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — Hundreds of Yemeni women protested Friday in the country's rebel-held capital over a shortage of gasoline, a rare sign of dissent against the Shiite Houthi rebels that overran Sanaa in September.

The demonstration started at a women-only gas station when a station official told some 500 waiting customers there was no fuel, protester Onisya Mahfouz said. A fight broke out and a woman slapped the official, who detained her and four others, Mahfouz said.

The women staged an impromptu sit-in, burning tires and demanding the detained women be released. They accused the Houthi station management and government of

hoarding subsidized fuel to sell at a profit on the black market.

"The Houthis have no shame," protester Kholoud Abdullah said. "They trade with our fuel and then they treat us like we are gangsters or bandits."

The protest came as the Houthis face a widening military campaign by pro-government forces backed by Saudi airstrikes, pushing the rebels out of previously-held territories in the south. The protest was a sign of increasing frustration among ordinary citizens with hardships and shortages that have deepened following months of fighting in Sanaa. Fuel shortages and subsidies have been a contentious political issue in Yemen, one of the poorest countries in the Arab world.



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19 killed in Sao Paulo shootings; police investigating links

SAO PAULO (AP) — At least 19 people were shot to death within the span of about three hours in Brazil's biggest metropolitan area, law enforcement officials said Friday.

Alexandre de Moraes, the head of the Sao Paulo State Public Safety Department, said at a news conference that police are trying to determine if Thursday night's shootings in the suburbs of Osasco, Barueri and Itapevi, on the western outskirts of Sao Paulo, are related.

He said 15 of the victims were shot dead in Osasco, three were killed in Barueri and one in Itapevi. Seven people were wounded and are hospitalized.

The mayor of Osasco, Jorge Lapas, told the Globo TV network the killings may have been in reprisal for

the recent shooting deaths of two police officers.

At least 10 of the dead were shot at a bar after hooded men got out of a car and opened fire.

Not far away, one young man was shot outside an ice cream store. In the area, another man was shot by two men on a motorcycle.

Other shootings took place at five other locales.

Citing witnesses, Moraes said that in at least two instances, gunmen wearing face masks arrived and asked who had criminal histories. Those who said they did were shot.

"We will investigate if the killings were committed by drug traffickers, by off-duty police officers or were acts of vengeance for the recent killings of two police officers." □



Residents stand across the street from a bar where at least 10 people were shot the night before, in the Sao Paulo suburb Osasco, Brazil, Friday, Aug. 14, 2015. Police in Brazil's biggest city are investigating the shooting deaths of at least 19 people within the span of about three hours. According to police the 10 people were shot dead after hooded men got out of a car and opened fire.

(AP Photo/Andre Penner)

Brazil Senate leader proposes ending a Mercosur trade pact



Senate President Renan Calheiros speaks in Brasilia, Brazil. (AP Photo/Eraldo Peres)

SAO PAULO (AP) — The president of the Brazilian Senate has proposed ending South America's Mercosur customs union so that Brazil can sign bilateral trade agreements without having to get the approval of the group's other members.

Sen. Renan Calheiros' proposal is part of an eco-

nomie blueprint called the "Brazil Agenda" that was handed to Finance Minister Joaquim Levy earlier this week. The Brazil Agenda consists of almost 30 measures aimed at slowing inflation and helping get the economy growing again. Mercosur is made up of Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Venezuela. □



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CARIBBEAN

Puerto Rico govt workers charged in \$3M tax fraud

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— Puerto Rico's Justice Department said Friday that it would charge five government employees in a \$3 million fraud scheme that involved taxpayer money. A Puerto Rican couple that owned a local construction and remodeling firm also will be charged in the two-year operation, according to Justice Secretary Cesar Miranda. The suspects are accused of bypassing a bidding process and falsifying documents to remodel offices at Puerto Rico's seaside Capitol building, with one suspect charging three different times for the same job, Miranda said. Miranda said the money came in part from Puerto Rico's Government Development Bank, which has seen its liquidity shrink amid an economic crisis. Authorities said government auditors uncovered the scheme, which ran from 2010 to 2012. □

US: Guantanamo legal offices are no health threat

HAVANA (AP) — Legal offices on the U.S. base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, have been deemed safe for human occupancy amid concerns about a possible cancer cluster, the Navy said Friday. A preliminary assessment of the buildings used by the Office of Military Commissions found no apparent danger following a review of medical records, historical documentation and other data, the Navy said in a statement. A final report is expected by the end of the month. A report to the Pentagon expressed concern that about a half a dozen people who have worked extensively in the buildings in recent years have developed some form of cancer, with at least one death. The buildings on a former airfield are used mostly by lawyers and support staff involved in proceedings against prisoners facing trial by military commission. □

11-year-old gives birth to girl in Paraguay

PEDRO SERVIN

Associated Press

ASUNCION, Paraguay (AP)

— An 11-year-old girl who was denied an abortion after being raped gave birth Thursday, the culmination of a case that put a spotlight on child rape in this

the infant.

Hospital director Mario Vilalba told reporters outside the hospital that the birth took about 35 minutes. She said the girl would remain in the hospital for three or four days, "like any other patient who has had a cesarean."

officials. Paraguay bans abortion except when a mother's life is in danger. At the time, the girl was five months pregnant and local health officials said she appeared to be in fine health. In a statement Thursday, Amnesty International said

health statistics. Many people have called for stiffer penalties for abusers and the funding of education programs to help parents and authorities better spot signs of abuse.

Norma Benitez, spokeswoman for the Latin American Women's Commission, said her group would now push the government to provide a safe environment for the girl that includes both her mother and grandmother.

"The Paraguayan state must fulfil its role of protecting children by providing a home and a dignified life" for this family, she said.

The Roman Catholic Church has wide influence in the country and was at the forefront of calls not to allow an abortion. Mariano Mercado, spokesman for the Paraguayan Episcopal Conference, reaffirmed the church's position Thursday but didn't talk about the girl's case.

"Human life is sacred and should be respected and protected from the moment of conception until death," he said.

Carlos Gilizzola, a physician who holds a seat in the Senate, said he that for four years he has been pushing legislation to increase sex education funding.

"The majority of Christian churches, led by the Catholic Church, campaigned in 2012 to make sure the bill wasn't even taken up in committee," he said.

In July, Pope Francis spent three days in Paraguay. He met with officials, toured a slum outside Asuncion and celebrated two Masses. □



A 13-year-old girl holds her one-month-old baby at a shelter for troubled children in Ciudad del Este, Paraguay. The girl said she was raped by her stepfather from the time she was 10 and became pregnant when she was 12.
(AP Photo/Jorge Saenz)

poor South American nation and drew criticism from human rights groups.

Elizabeth Torales, a lawyer for the girl's mother, told The Associated Press that the minor gave birth to a baby girl via cesarean in a Red Cross hospital in Asuncion, Paraguay's capital. She said reported there were no complications and both the mother and baby were resting.

"The baby doesn't yet have a name," said Torales, who added that her client and the girl's grandmother had requested custody of

She said the minor was currently accompanied by her grandmother, but declined to give more details.

The girl was allegedly raped and impregnated by her stepfather when she was 10. The stepfather has been arrested and is awaiting trial. The girl's mother has been charged with negligence. The mother requested an abortion for her daughter, but the government refused to allow it, drawing praise from religious groups but criticism from many human rights organizations, including U.N.

it was glad the girl came through the birth all right, but said the fact that "she did not die does not excuse the human rights violations she suffered at the hands of the Paraguayan authorities." While the case did spark some discussion about abortion in deeply socially conservative Paraguay, the focus of several protests was on better protecting children from abuse. About 600 girls age 14 or under become pregnant each year in this country of 6.8 million people, according to local

Dominican Republic resumes deportation patrols

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP)

— Dominican authorities on Friday resumed patrols to detain and deport migrants, the majority of them Haitians, who lack documents after a more than yearlong hiatus.

The move came weeks after the government ended a one-year period for migrants to apply for legal residency under a pro-

gram that has drawn international criticism.

Bernardo Jimenez, director of the government's immigrant detention center, said only six Haitians had been detained as of Friday. Four of them were released after proving they had enrolled in the immigration program, he said. Officials stressed that foreigners must carry documents at all times to prove

they are living legally in the Dominican Republic.

Authorities have said nearly 289,000 people enrolled in the program out of an estimated 524,000 migrants living in the Caribbean country that shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti. Migration officials say more than 66,000 people have moved to neighboring Haiti. Haiti's government has warned that the actions by

Dominican officials are creating a humanitarian crisis. Relations between the two countries have grown increasingly strained since a Dominican court ruled in September 2013 that children born in the country to non-citizens did not qualify for automatic citizenship because their migrant parents were "in transit." Most of those affected have been Haitians. □



Resort Elegant and Beach Chic: SunSmiles Sandals is Taking Aruba's Fashion by Storm!

ORANJESTAD – From expanding its locations to gracing the feet of the most beautiful girls on the island, SunSmiles Sandals has been out and about during Summer 2015. The customizable footwear line is becoming the go-to accessory for those who want to show their personal sense of fashion. If you have not gotten your pair already, you need to get to a boutique and get started! The delegates from the Miss Teen International Aruba got to live the SunSmiles Sandals experience recently and got creative mixing the different rings and embellishments. During the event, the lovely Marshelie Kock received a prize from SunSmiles Sandals for having the greatest social media impact of her image with the pair she



The demand for the flexible and comfortable footwear is increasing between women of all ages; therefore SunSmiles Sandals Aruba recently opened a new location. The Ripples at La Cabana Beach Resort is the latest place on the island where you can find the whole SunSmiles Sandals collection, including girl's sizes. Get to know SunSmiles Sandals while enjoying the sun, beach, nightlife and Aruba's many other charms! When you visit, one of the friendly SunSmiles Sandals representative will be glad to show you the many options, sizes, colors and styles. For more information, visit the SunSmiles Sandals Aruba page on Facebook or one of the Red Sail Sports' boutiques at the Hyatt lobby, Waves on the Beach behind the Radisson Resort or Moomba Beach. In the photos you can see a few of the possibilities created especially for this summer! ☐



fashioned at the Ostrich Farm, where the brand has its flag store. SunSmiles Sandals is the easiest way to find the perfect match for

your outfit; just choose the color or pattern you need from our ever expanding collection of ribbons and socks and you are done.



TEDxAruba is First TEDx Event Worldwide Accepting Bitcoin

DWAYNE HERONIMO

TEDxAruba Press

ORANJESTAD - TEDxAruba has become the first TEDx event in the world to accept Bitcoin for the payment of the registration fee.

The move comes with the awareness 'On the road to TEDxAruba' through Inspiring Sessions on the island which among other economic developments focuses on the role of complementary currencies in economic and social systems.

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Sparkling Donkey Teeth Thanks to American Dentist



Blanca the Donkey smiles with Darlene Conserva, Dr. Peter Conserva and Dr. Ricardo Contreras Oduber.

BRINGAMOS - The volunteers of the Donkey Sanctuary have been taking care of their donkeys

for years now; they feed them and they provide first aid when needed. Professional medical aid is given

by Dr. Ricardo Contreras Oduber, who has a clinic in Noord. With a herd of some 130 donkeys there is

almost always a reason to call for the vet.

But the doctor is not only required when there have

been accidents; to prevent medical problems action is needed. And, starting at the beginning of this year, we now offer our donkeys a regular dental check-up. A horse veterinarian (dentist) from America (Connecticut) loves to vacation on Aruba; sometimes he and his wife fly down three times a year. And when on the island, he comes to the Sanctuary to spend at least one day with our donkeys. Then Dr. Peter Conserva and his wife Darlene checks the teeth of his patients: brushing, extractions and fillings are the name of the game on that day!

Together with our own Dr. Ricardo Contreras Oduber, the couple works hard to keep the Aruban donkeys healthy and happy. It is fun to see the giant electrical dental brush that the American dentist uses, buzzing away; it looks like a big drill with a special extension that makes the teeth of Aruban donkeys sparkle and shine. □

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Sidebar Bistro, a stylish and hip Restaurant, located in the Renaissance Market place



ORANJESTAD - Sidebar is unique in a trendy, sassy and sexy way, it is ready to welcome young and old! Sidebar is the place that serves the best burgers on the island and even has vegetarian food. Dutch owners Niels Stooter, his manager Kim d'Hont, together with their team are waiting to serve you the diner of your dreams! Common ground and denominating factor of the guests includes the enjoyment of life, in particular the good things, such as great bistro food, wonderful drinks and a relaxed, happy atmosphere. Side Bar is the name of a stylish, hip restaurant on the side of the Renaissance Marketplace; just hop inside, sit at the bar or on the amazing porch and enjoy! One of the guests was overheard remarking: "I was wondering how one could find niche for a new restaurant on Aruba, but I believe Niels has found



it with Sidebar. The combination gourmet burger and aged Bourbons is one that we don't have yet on the island. This bistro

is going to soar." Others agreed and they added that the food, atmosphere and the staff is absolutely terrific! ☐

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Jamie and Chris Tangoed All the Way to Tango Restaurant!



PALM BEACH - Jamie and Chris Roberts from New Jersey, USA, are crazy about Tango Argentine Grill in the Arawak Garden. The couple has been married for two years now; they honeymooned in Aruba in 2013. During the honeymoon they hap-

pened to find Tango and it was love at first sight. Especially the skirt steak and filet mignon bowled them over. They have been dreaming about dinner at Tango and the Tango crepe for dessert for a long time, but dreams come true! Jamie

and Chris came tango-ing back for more. At Tango everyone hopes they will be back many more times. The couple is very fond of Aruba, especially its beaches, the sunshine and the cordial people. So don't wait too long to return, Jamie and Chris! □



A 63, a Spieth rally and a storm delay at PGA Championship

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

SHEBOYGAN, Wis. (AP) —

Hiroshi Iwata tied a major championship record with a 63. Jordan Spieth put himself into the mix for another major. John Daly lost his cool and a golf club when he heaved it into Lake Michigan.

The second round of the PGA Championship had just about everything Friday. Except a conclusion. Jason Day ran off three straight birdies and was tied for the lead with Matt Jones at 9-under par when a vicious thunderstorm packing 40 mph wind caused the second round to be suspended until Saturday morning.

The storm toppled the main scoreboard at the entrance and flags atop some grandstands were ripped off their poles.

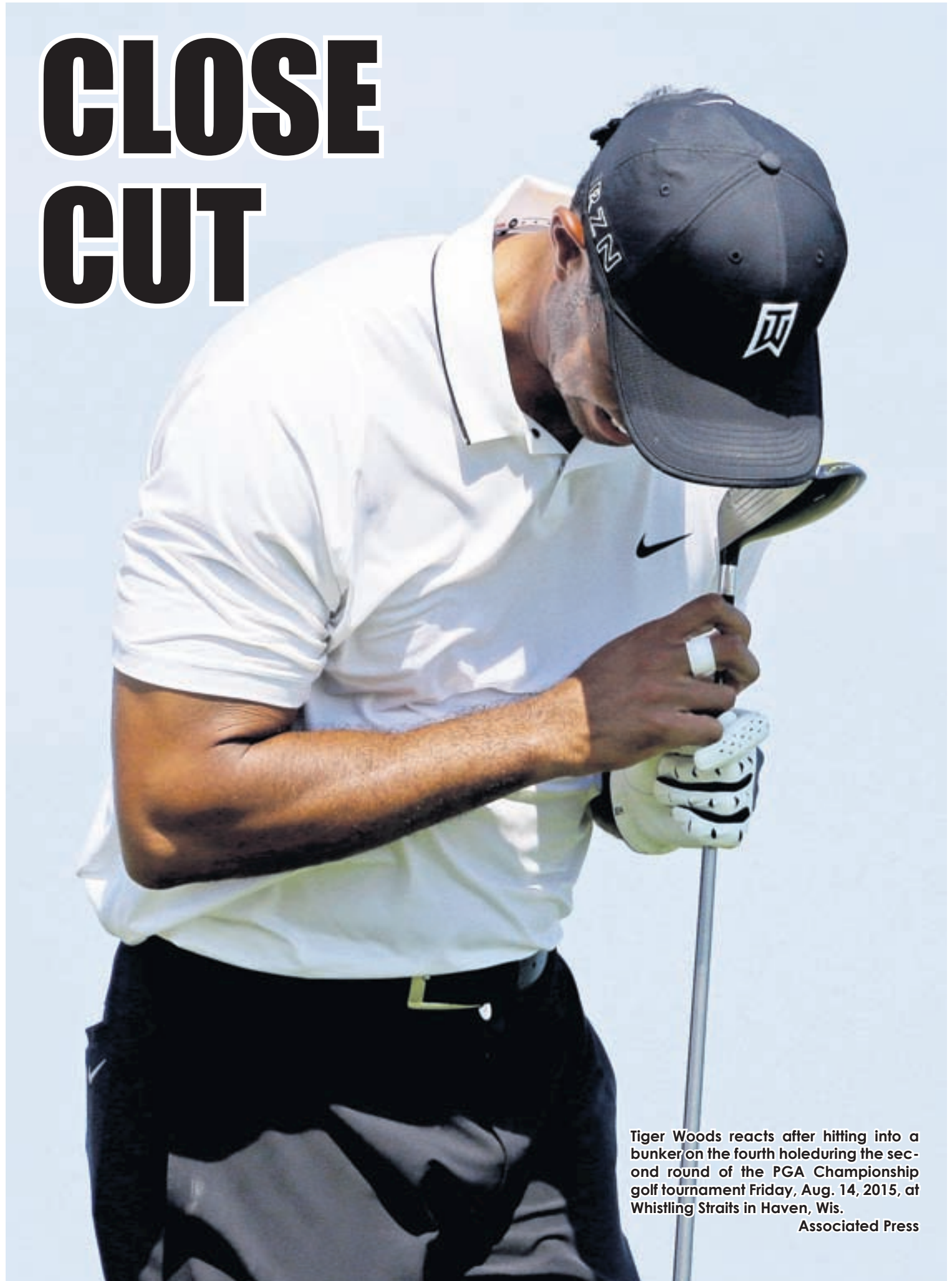
Justin Rose pulled within one shot of the lead with back-to-back birdies and was headed to the 18th tee, relieved to finish his round.

"I opened my big mouth to the boys playing with us," Rose said. "I said, 'The end is in sight.' And 30 seconds later, they blew the horn. So my name is mud all over here."

Tiger Woods, for all his struggles in the majors this year, can at least say he made it to the weekend in three of them. He made the cut at the Masters. He missed the cut on Saturday at the wind-delayed British Open. There was still hope at the PGA Championship, though he was 4 over with five holes to play, two shots away from the projected cut.

The leaderboard was as clouded as the sky over Whistling Straits.

CLOSE CUT



Tiger Woods reacts after hitting into a bunker on the fourth hole during the second round of the PGA Championship golf tournament Friday, Aug. 14, 2015, at Whistling Straits in Haven, Wis.

Associated Press

Family believes Tony Stewart lost his temper in fatal crash

The Associated Press

The parents of a sprint car driver struck and killed last year by Tony Stewart believe a wrongful death lawsuit is the only way to hold the NASCAR star accountable.

Pamela and Kevin Ward Sr. said Friday on "Good Morning America" they want "justice" for their 20-year-old son.

"That's what we want," Pamela Ward said. "I don't feel Tony meant to kill my son. But his actions killed my son. I think he lost his temper."

Kevin Ward Jr. was killed last August at Canandaigua (N.Y.) Motorsports Park when he exited his car under caution in an apparent attempt to confront Stewart. As Ward Jr. walked down the track, he was struck by Stewart's car.

The Wards believe Stewart revved his engine and swerved toward Ward Jr.

"Tony races every week-



Tony Stewart leaves the garage after a practice session Friday, Aug. 14, 2015, for Sunday's NASCAR Sprint Cup series auto race at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, Mich.

Associated Press

end," Kevin Ward Sr. said. "Well I know my son will never get to race again.

He took a very, very big part of my family's life." A grand jury last Septem-

ber cleared Stewart of any criminal wrongdoing. The Ontario County district at-

torney also added Ward was under the influence of marijuana the night of the incident.

"I do not believe my son was impaired," Pamela Ward said.

The wrongful death suit filed Aug. 7 seeks unspecified damages stemming from Ward Jr.'s potential future earnings and suffering at the time of the accident. Stewart has maintained the incident was an accident. He's never publicly commented in detail on the sequence of events that evening, and has declined to discuss the lawsuit.

"I wish he hadn't gotten out of the car, more than anybody," Pamela Ward said of her son's actions. "But I also acknowledge the fact that if Tony would have stayed low on the track and not gunned his engine and headed for my son, my son would still be here." □

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PGA Championship



Hiroshi Iwata, of Japan, hits on the 18th hole during the second round of the PGA Championship golf tournament Friday, Aug. 14, 2015, at Whistling Straits in Haven, Wis.

Associated Press

Continued from Page 17

Seven players had at least a share of the lead at some point Friday, when a strong breeze in the morning gave way to steamy sunshine and virtually no wind until the storms moved in. When players were evacuated from the course, 11 players were separated by three shots.

David Lingmerth of Sweden made only four pars in his wild round of 70 and was the clubhouse leader at 7-under 137. One shot behind was a group that included Spieth, the Masters and U.S. Open champion who is very much in the picture to join Woods and Ben Hogan as the only players to win three majors in one year.

Scott Piercy (70) and Brendan Steele (69) joined Spieth at 6-under 138.

The star of the day was

Iwata, a 34-year-old from Japan who had every reason to think his first appearance in the PGA Championship would be a short one. He opened with a 77 and still was 3 over when he reached the back nine. Iwata reeled off five birdies and an eagle, and he saved par on the 18th for a 63.

It was the 27th time that a player shot 63 in a major, 13 of those in the PGA Championship and most recently Jason Dufner at Oak Hill two years ago.

"When I came here, I was thinking just to make my game better and better and on Sunday, I can be in the top 10," Iwata said through a translator.

Even with a record-tying score, he still has plenty of work ahead of him to do that. Iwata was at 4-under 140 and losing ground as one player after another took aim at Whistling Straits

in good scoring conditions. Day was through 14 holes while Jones, his fellow Australian, was through 12 holes and on the front nine. Day shared the 54-hole lead at the U.S. Open while coping with vertigo symptoms. He missed by one turn of the golf ball a birdie on the 18th hole at St. Andrews that would have put him in a playoff at the British Open. Now it looks like he gets yet another chance. He was thrilled to stop play, especially as the storm clouds turned dark and he had trouble with depth perception on some of his wedges.

"We'll see how it goes tomorrow," Day said. "We've got some scoring holes and some tough ones to finish on. But I'm real happy to be done."

Dustin Johnson, the 18-hole leader, took a brief lead at 8 under until he ran into trouble on the par-5 11th

with a wicked lie in the bunker that led to bogey. He added two more bogeys and was four shots out of the lead at 5 under.

"Hopefully, I can come back in the morning and make a couple birdies coming in, and then we'll get the day started on Saturday," he said.

Rory McIlroy had hopes of being a little closer to the lead. Coming off an ankle injury that has kept him out since the U.S. Open, he world's No. 1 player went cold with the putter and

had to settle for another round of 71 that put him at 2-under 142.

McIlroy was keeping pace with Spieth until a big turnaround on the 18th hole at the halfway point of their round. Spieth holed out from a bunker for birdie, while McIlroy went well left into knee-high hay, took two chips to reach the green and made double bogey.

"You're going to have to have more of a short game to be able to salvage par sometimes," he said. □

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Buehrle, Blue Jays win 11th straight, beat Athletics 4-2

The Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — The surging Toronto Blue Jays won their 11th straight game Thursday, beating the Oakland Athletics 4-2 behind Mark Buehrle's arm and Ryan Goins' bat.

The AL East leaders, who also won 11 in a row in June, became the first team to post a pair of winning streaks of at least 11 since Cleveland in 1954.

Toronto finished off a three-game sweep and hosts the second-place New York Yankees in a three-game set beginning Friday night. David Price starts the opener for the Blue Jays.

Buehrle (13-5) won his fourth straight decision and improved to 8-1 in 14 starts since May 29. He allowed two runs and seven hits in seven-plus innings.

Roberto Osuna worked the ninth for his 12th save.

Goins hit a three-run homer



Toronto Blue Jays' starting pitcher Mark Buehrle, right, is congratulated by catcher Dioner Navarro before leaving in the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Oakland Athletics in Toronto, Thursday, Aug. 13, 2015.

Associated Press

during a four-run second against Jesse Chavez (6-12). **ANGELS 7, ROYALS 6**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — C.J. Cron and Kole Cal-

houn each drove in a pair of runs in the ninth inning, rallying Los Angeles past Kansas City and its stout bullpen for a victory and an

end to its seven-game skid against the Royals.

Kansas City had built a 5-1 advantage heading to the eighth, but All-Star reliever Wade Davis coughed up two runs in his first appearance since Aug. 6, when a stiff back put him on the shelf.

Greg Holland (3-1) entered in the ninth and gave up a leadoff single, a walk and threw a wild pitch. Cron followed with a pinch-hit double to tie the game, and after Johnny Giavotella singled, Calhoun added his go-ahead double into the right-field corner.

Jose Alvarez (3-3) tossed

1 2/3 scoreless innings to earn the win.

RANGERS 6, TWINS 5

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Mitch Moreland drove in four runs on a career-high four hits, including a two-run homer to help the Texas Rangers avoid a sweep at Minnesota and rally past the Twins. Elvis Andrus hit the go-ahead sacrifice fly in the eighth inning against Casey Fien (2-5) after Adrian Beltré and Moreland started the frame with singles.

Twins starter Ervin Santana squandered a 4-0 lead, thanks to the towering two-run shot by Moreland in the fourth and a two-run, go-ahead double by the first baseman in the fifth.

Keone Kela (6-5) got four outs for the victory after relieving Chi Chi Gonzalez. Shawn Tolleson pitched a perfect ninth for his 21st save in 22 tries. □

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Bucs score early and often to beat Cardinals 10-5



St. Louis Cardinals catcher Yadier Molina tries to regain control of the ball as Pittsburgh Pirates' Francisco Cervelli (29) scores from second on a hit by Francisco Liriano in the first inning of a baseball game, Thursday, Aug. 13, 2015, in St. Louis.

Associated Press

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Pedro Alvarez homered in a seven-run first inning and Pittsburgh broke an eight-game losing streak at Busch Stadium, beating St. Louis.

The Pirates moved within six games of the first-place Cardinals in the NL Central with their 12th victory in 18 games.

St. Louis, which won the first two in the series, has won the last seven sets between the teams at Busch Stadium.

Alvarez had three hits as the Pirates held on. The Cardinals closed their seven-run deficit to 7-5 in the seventh.

Francisco Liriano (8-6) pitched six innings.

Lance Lynn (9-7) got just two outs in the shortest of his 119 career starts.

GIANTS 3, NATIONALS 1

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — San Francisco answered right back after Yunel Escobar hit the game's first pitch for a home run, Ryan Vogelsong settled in to win for the first time in more than seven weeks, and the Giants beat Washington.

Matt Duffy and Buster Posey hit RBI singles in the bottom of the first against Stephen Strasburg (6-6) for the defending champions

to kick off a key four-game series in a rematch of last fall's NL division series won in four games by the Giants.

Vogelsong (8-8) allowed one run on three hits, struck out eight and walked four over five innings for his first victory in five starts since June 24 as San Francisco won for just the second time in seven games.

Both teams sit in second place in their respective divisions looking to make a move over the final eight weeks.

Santiago Casilla finished for his 28th save.

REDS 10, DODGERS 3

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Billy Hamilton had a career-high four hits, including a solo homer, to help the Cincinnati Reds defeat former teammate Mat Latos and NL West-leading Los Angeles for just its third victory in nine games.

Hamilton went 4 for 4 with four runs scored and two RBIs for the Reds, who piled up 15 hits while never trailing against a team coming off consecutive shutout victories.

Rookie Keyvius Sampson (2-1) allowed two runs and five hits in five innings. The right-hander struck out three and walked one in winning his second straight.

Latos (4-9) gave up five runs and seven hits in 4 2/3 innings.

Brandon Phillips went 2 for 5, drove in three runs and scored a run on a night when Joey Votto went 1 for 4 and drew his major league-leading 32nd walk for the Reds.

CUBS 9, BREWERS 2

CHICAGO (AP) — Kyle Schwarber hit two homers and drove in four runs, Jon Lester won his fourth straight decision and the Chicago Cubs beat the Milwaukee Brewers for their seventh victory in a row.

Schwarber, Dexter Fowler and Anthony Rizzo each homered in the fifth inning as Chicago won for the 13th time in 14 games. The Cubs' winning streak is their longest since 2011.

The Cubs, holding the lead for the second NL wild-card spot, completed their first undefeated homestand of at least seven games since 2008.

Lester (8-8) struck out 10 in six innings. He gave up two runs and seven hits.

Tyler Cravy (0-4) allowed four runs and four hits in 4 1/3 innings.

METS 12, ROCKIES 3

NEW YORK (AP) — Curtis Granderson and Kelly Johnson each homered and drove in three runs,

powering the New York Mets to a rout of the Colorado Rockies that completed a four-game sweep Thursday.

Noah Syndergaard (7-6) recovered nicely from a rocky start — he allowed first-inning homers by DJ LeMahieu and Nolan Arenado — for his latest win at Citi Field, where the Mets have won 10 straight against Colorado. With

their seventh consecutive home win and 11th in 13 games overall, the NL East leaders (63-52) moved 11 games over .500 for the first time since June 27, 2010.

Johnson also doubled twice, including a two-out hit that broke a tie in the third inning. Granderson connected for his 20th homer in the fourth, a two-run shot off rookie Eddie Butler (3-10). □

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ANT-MAN

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

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FRI 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15 | 11:45

SAT 1:55 | 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15 | 11:45

SUN & HOL 1:55 | 4:20 | 6:45 | 9:15

ADAM SANDLER | KEVIN JAMES

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WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

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U.S. men's basketball looks ready for Rio after minicamp

BRIAN MAHONEY
AP Basketball Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — While many countries are still trying to qualify for the Olympics, the U.S. is already lining up guys to play.

Not just next summer, but potentially five summers down the line.

Firmly perched atop the basketball world but forever mindful of how they were once knocked off, the Americans took a few days this week to begin their preparations for 2016. And 2020. And way beyond that.

"We're trying to build something that can last forever," LeBron James said.

The Americans didn't exactly work hard in this city better known for fun. The practices were short and light, though it's not like they have tons to do. Ten months before picking the team, USA Basketball chairman Jerry Colangelo already says if everyone is healthy, this will be the best U.S. squad yet.

Besides, they didn't really come here to do drills. They came for moments like the opening of the first practice, which demonstrated what Colangelo and coach Mike Krzyzewski have built.

The Americans posed for a team picture, five rows of about 40 players, coaches and officials representing the past, present and future of the program, from guys who have been in the

program for a decade to others who are just starting their international careers. Some won in Beijing and London. Many will have their shot in Rio de Janeiro. Others might have to wait until Tokyo in 2020, but the process for that has already begun.

"We don't only have a pool of players, we have a pool of gold-medal winners. But you still have to bring new guys in because it's going to keep going and even if, say a guy would not make the team next year, he potentially could be a star (later). That's how you have to keep the culture going and thank goodness that these guys have recommitted each time," Krzyzewski said.

The national team is 75-1 since Colangelo implemented the program following the Americans' bronze-medal finish in Athens in 2004. He and Krzyzewski built something in which the NBA's best not only want to play, but want to keep doing it.

James and Carmelo Anthony could become the first American four-time men's basketball Olympians. Even Hall of Famer David Robinson, a Navy graduate and only other U.S. player to compete in three, can't believe how much today's players keep returning.

"It seemed like interest started to wane around 2000 and 2004. I didn't think any-



Kenneth Faried, right, draws a foul as he blocks a shot by Michael Carter-Williams during a U.S. men's basketball intrasquad game, Thursday, Aug. 13, 2015, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

body was going to want to do it that many times, especially when you're not getting paid," Robinson said. "But like I said, the culture that they've created now, the guys take a lot of pride in it, they're taking pride in our country and I just think it's fantastic."

It just briefly seemed in jeopardy of weakening last summer.

A series of player withdrawals before the Basketball World Cup, most notably Kevin Durant, and the Americans' first serious injury with Paul George's

broken leg — Colangelo called it a tragedy — left some wondering if the international experience still mattered.

In fact, it felt like 2004. But in Colangelo's program, stability quickly replaces uncertainty.

"Yeah, it's come a long way," said former NBA executive Stu Jackson, who was on the selection committee in 2004. "And I think the structure, the process with which they pick the team was a very needed change and we owe that all to Jerry Colangelo."

Stephen Curry, Anthony Davis and Kyrie Irving helped the Americans win gold in Spain and could be among the players who carry the program forward once James, Anthony and Chris Paul decide they're done. Playing in Beijing was a no-brainer, with the U.S. reputation to repair and sneakers to sell in basketball-crazed China. Anthony said players and the companies they endorse are still trying to figure out the opportunities in the Brazilian market, but David M. Carter, principal of The Sports Business Group, said the players have an advantage with the NBA's international reach.

"Combine this expertise with the global stage afforded NBA players during the Olympics, and each and every one of them should think long and hard prior to questioning the value of participating," Carter said. "While risks exist, they should be deemed measured risks where the upside of participating far outweighs declining the invitation. This is particularly the case for NBA stars hoping to have high-profile and lucrative careers once their playing days are over."

Colangelo and Krzyzewski can choose a roster from the players here this week and even potentially Kobe Bryant, who he said could be in the mix for a spot if he earns it. □

Michael Sam leaves CFL's Alouettes

MONTREAL (AP) — Michael Sam is stepping away from pro football.

Sam, the first openly gay player drafted by the NFL, has told the Canadian Football League's Montreal Alouettes that he is leaving the team.

"The last 12 months have been very difficult for me, to the point where I became concerned with my mental health," Sam tweeted Fri-

day. "Because of this I am going to step away from the game at this time."

The Alouettes confirmed in a release that Sam has left the club for "personal reasons" and that he has been added to the team's suspended list.

He did not play in Montreal's home loss to Edmonton on Thursday night, with the team citing a sore back. He made his CFL debut the

previous week.

The 25-year-old defensive end, the 2013 Southeastern Conference defensive player of the year at Missouri, failed to record a tackle in Montreal's loss to Ottawa. Sam agreed to a two-year deal with the Alouettes this summer. He left training camp June 12, citing personal reasons, and sat out the team's first five games. □



Montreal Alouettes' Michael Sam is set to make his pro football debut as he warms up before the first half of a Canadian Football League game against the Ottawa Redblacks in Ottawa, Ontario, on Friday, Aug. 7, 2015.

Associated Press

Apple more than doubles hiring of women and minorities



In this Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2015 photo, an Iranian shopkeeper walks through an electronics shop selling Apple products in Tehran, Iran. Under the nuclear Associated Press

BRANDON BAILEY

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Apple says it more than doubled the numbers of women, blacks and Hispanics hired in the last year, although that barely moved the needle in terms of improving the diversity of its total workforce.

Like other major tech companies, Apple has been under public pressure to increase the number of women and minorities in a workforce that is overwhelmingly male and white or Asian.

Civil rights leader Jesse Jackson has been joined by members of Congress and other critics calling for Silicon Valley firms to make their employees more representative of the population as a whole.

Apple CEO Tim Cook said in a statement Thursday that he's proud of his company's efforts, but acknowledged, "We know there is a lot more work to be done." The maker of iPhones, iPads and Mac computers is-

sued a report Thursday that follows similar reports from Google, Facebook, Intel and other large tech companies. Most of those companies only began disclosing their hiring numbers after Jackson began pressing them to do so last year. One exception is Intel, which has been releasing diversity statistics for more than a decade.

Apple Inc. said 35 percent of its new hires worldwide last year were women, while 24 percent of U.S. hires were black or Hispanic.

As a result, Apple's global workforce of 110,000 is now 31 percent women, up from 30 percent last year. Its U.S. workforce is 19 percent black or Hispanic, up from 18 percent. That includes employees in non-technical jobs, such as retail positions in Apple stores. By comparison, about 26 percent of U.S. workers across all industries are black or Hispanic.

Critics are especially concerned about low diver-

sity rates among technical workers, such as computer software developers or hardware engineers, which are usually the highest-paid jobs at most Silicon Valley companies, outside top management.

The number of black and Hispanic workers in Apple's U.S.-based technical jobs increased from 13 percent last year to 15 percent this year.

The number of white and Asian technical workers at Apple also increased from 77 percent last year to 78 percent this year. The increases appeared to be matched by slight declines in the number of employees who identify as multi-racial or didn't declare their ethnicity.

In another key category, Apple said the number of whites in U.S.-based leadership positions dropped to 63 percent from 64 percent, but the numbers of Asians, Hispanics and blacks stayed the same at 21 percent, 6 percent and 3 percent, respectively.

Cook said in a statement that he's committed to hiring more women and minorities. He said Apple is also contributing funds to historically black colleges and programs that provide technology and skills-training to students in disadvantaged communities. "Diversity is critical to innovation and it is essential to Apple's future," Cook said. "We aspire to do more than just make our company as diverse as the talent available to hire."

In response, Jackson praised Apple for making "solid, measurable progress." In a statement, he also applauded the company for releasing a copy of the detailed workforce statistics that major employers must report each year to the federal government.

Apple and other tech companies have previously refused to make those reports public.

But Jackson said he wants Apple and other tech companies to go beyond the

federal report and provide more "comprehensive" data on hiring as well as purchasing and contracting with companies owned by women and minorities. He said that would provide "a much clearer picture of what companies are actually doing."

While Silicon Valley companies have been reluctant to disclose such information, they are publicly embracing the notion of improving diversity. Intel issued its own report this week, showing that more than 43 percent of its U.S. hires this year were women or minorities, slightly better than the 40 percent goal the company had set for itself.

Jackson also cited Hewlett-Packard for taking steps that address concerns about corporate boards in Silicon Valley, which tend to have few women and minority members. HP, which is splitting into two companies, announced that the board of each spinoff will include two black directors and four women. □

Wall Street gains as Yuan and oil stabilize

BERNARD CONDON

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A rocky week for the stock market ended on a bright note as investors bought stocks across industries.

The S&P 500 climbed 8.15 points, or 0.4 percent, to 2,091.54. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 69.15 points, or 0.4 percent, to end at 17,477.40. The Nasdaq composite rose 14.68

the world's second-largest economy could be more fragile than they previously thought.

"We were in a sell-first-ask-questions-later mode, but we've rallied back," said

Thursday. J.C. Penney rose 45 cents, or 5.6 percent, to \$8.52 after a narrower loss on stronger-than-expected sales as the retail chain continues to turn its business around.

Investors are hoping for good news in the current quarter, too. On Thursday, the Commerce Department reported U.S. retail sales climbed last month, suggesting that strong hiring and lower gas prices are encouraging consumers to spend more.

Sean Lynch, co-head of global equity strategy at Wells Fargo Investment Institute, said investors have been remarkably calm in the face of several potentially unnerving events, including a slowing Chinese economy, Greece's debt troubles, plunging oil prices and the Federal Reserve possibly raising interest rates next month.

"You've got recurrent issues worrying the market ... yet it's been pretty lethargic," he said. "It's been trading at a narrow range despite all the noise."

The S&P 500 is basically unchanged in the last six months. For the week, it rose 0.7 percent.

Europe had a tougher week. Germany's DAX fell 4.4 percent, the CAC-40 in France dropped 3.9 percent and Britain's FTSE 100 was down 2.5 percent. All three indexes were down Friday. □



Trader Glenn Kessler uses his handheld device as he works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. A rocky week for the stock market ended on a bright note as investors bought stocks across industries. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

Stocks wavered in the morning before climbing steadily during the afternoon amid a mix of earnings results. The market also got a lift as China's currency steadied after a slump earlier in the week that shook financial markets around the world. The gains were modest but broad, with nine of the 10 sectors of the Standard and Poor's 500 index ending higher.

points, or 0.3 percent, to 5,048.24.

At the close of stock trading, the dollar was buying 6.391 Chinese yuan, little changed from the previous day. Reassuring comments from a Chinese central bank official on Thursday seemed to ease concerns that China's government would seek to devalue its currency further. Investors were worried that the devaluation suggested

Piers Cornelius, a managing director at J.P. Morgan Private Bank. He says he expects stocks to stabilize over the next few weeks as companies, flush with record cash, continue to buy back their own shares.

Stocks of retailers rallied after some solid earnings reports.

Nordstrom rose \$3.21, or 4.3 percent, \$78.13 after beating analysts' expectations in results announced late

STREET BRIEFS

Oil price hits lowest level in 6½ years

LONDON (AP) — The price of crude oil hit its lowest level in 6½ years Friday amid concerns over a slowing economy in China, a huge energy consumer, and strong global production. The U.S. crude contract fell as low as \$41.35 a barrel, the weakest level since early 2009, when the global economy was in the throes of a massive financial crisis and recession. By late morning in Europe, the price was around \$42 a barrel. The oil contract has been declining since touching a high of \$61.43 on June 10. The main reasons are big increases in production in the U.S. and Canada, as well as expectations Iran's oil could soon return to the market. Meanwhile, China's devaluation of its currency this week highlights its concern about an economic slowdown. □

Tesla setting its new share price at \$242

Tesla Motors is pricing an upcoming offering of its stock at \$242 per share, or slightly below the most recent closing price for the electric car maker. Shares of the company are climbing in early morning trading after it detailed in a regulatory filing an offering it expects to generate about \$642 million in proceeds after expenses. Tesla Motors Inc. will offer nearly 2.7 million shares or more than 3 million if underwriters exercise their option to buy more shares. CEO Elon Musk plans to buy \$20 million worth of stock. The Palo Alto, California, automaker says it needs the cash in part to help with development of its Model 3, a lower-cost electric car due out in 2017. Shares of Tesla are up \$1.99 to \$244.50 in pre-market trading. □

US producer prices up just 0.2 percent in July

M. CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Prices charged by producers rose more slowly in July, reflecting declines in both food and energy.

The Labor Department said Friday its Producer Price Index, which measures inflation pressures before they reach the consumer, increased 0.2 percent in July compared to June when prices had risen 0.4 percent.

The Federal Reserve has said that it needs to feel "reasonably confident" that inflation will move

back to its 2 percent goal before beginning to raise interest rates from a record low near zero, where a key Fed rate has been since late 2008.

But inflation is running well below the Fed's target.

Over the past 12 months, prices at the wholesale level have fallen 0.8 percent, the sixth straight month that prices have been down on a year-over-year basis. Core prices, which exclude the volatile categories of energy and food, are up a modest 0.6 percent over the past 12 months.

A key price gauge that

the Fed monitors is up by just 0.3 percent over the 12 months ending in June, reflecting the big drop in energy prices that has occurred over the past year. Even excluding food and energy, this price gauge has risen just 1.3 percent.

Many private economists have pegged the Fed's next meeting in September for a rate hike. But some economists argue that with inflation still so low, the central bank may wait until December or perhaps early next year before beginning to raise rates.

Ian Shepherdson, chief

economist for Pantheon Economics, said that "the strength of the dollar means that goods prices will be constrained for the foreseeable future." But he added that the cost of services could climb, given the expectation that a strengthening job market will fuel consumer demand.

In July, food costs fell 0.1 percent in July. Egg prices, which had been surging because of the avian flu outbreak, reversed and fell 24.2 percent. Energy prices were down 0.6 percent after two months of gains. □

J.C. Penney's 2Q results show turnaround gaining traction

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

PLANO, Texas (AP) — J.C.

Penney's turnaround is gaining traction.

The department store chain said Friday that its losses narrowed in the second quarter on better-expected sales, fueled by men's clothing, fine jewelry and the beauty brand Sephora. And a key revenue measure rose for the third straight quarter.

Shares of the company rose nearly 5 percent in afternoon trading.

"Although there is much work to do ... it's clear that when we execute well, we can deliver profitable sales and take market share," said Marvin Ellison, a former Home Depot executive who took over as CEO on Aug. 1 and presided over his first earnings call for Penney.

The results offer encouraging signs for the Plano, Texas-based retailer, which is more than two years into an effort to recover from a disastrous attempt to reinvent itself under former Apple executive Ron

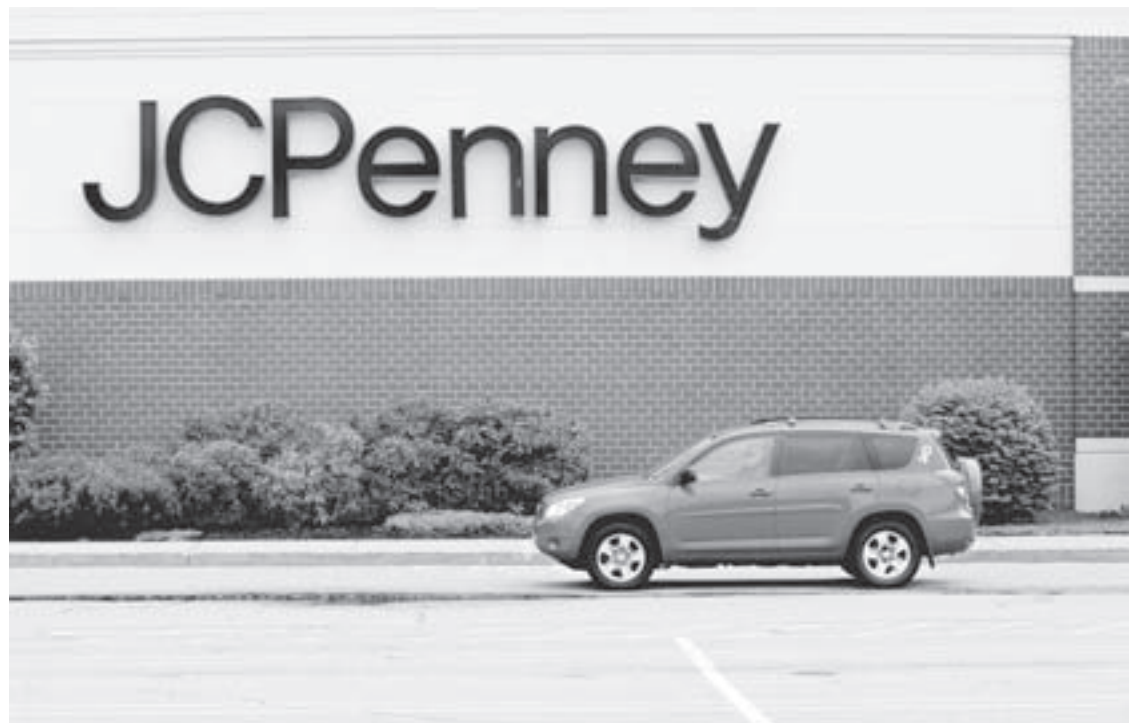
Johnson. That led to massive losses and plummeting sales.

Ellison took over the top job from Myron Ullman, who became executive chairman of the board. Ullman, who had previously run the company, came back as CEO in 2013 after Johnson was pushed out. Ullman helped pick Ellison, and the two executives have been running the company together since last November.

But J.C. Penney still has an uphill road to a full recovery.

Ullman stabilized the business by restoring frequent discounts and bringing back basic merchandise and popular store brands that Johnson eliminated. But sales are still well below where they were before he took over, and the retailer continues to rack up losses, though they're shrinking.

In the latest fiscal year ended January 2015, annual sales were \$12.25 billion, far below the \$17.2 billion level in the fiscal year that ended in January 2012. Johnson became CEO in



A car drives through an empty JC Penney department store parking lot at the Hanover Mall in Hanover, Mass. J.C. Penney Co. reported positive quarterly financial results on Friday, Aug. 14, 2015, evidence that the retailer's turnaround is gaining traction. (AP Photo/Stephan Savoia)

November 2011.

Now, Ellison is being tasked to pump up sales growth by sprucing up some departments like jewelry and dramatically expanding online sales after falling behind rivals. He also wants to transform the company into a more efficient operator. Ellison spelled out a litany of problems in an

earnings call with investors Friday, such as Penney not using analytics when it comes to pricing. He also said its customer loyalty program "isn't very good." And it needs to get better in replenishment and one-on-one marketing.

On top of its own woes, Penney is facing broader challenges that are trip-

ping up department store peers that cater to middle-income shoppers who haven't been benefiting much from the economic recovery.

Shoppers' spending is also shifting away from department-store specialties such as clothing and more toward restaurants, autos and smartphones. □

US factory output climbed in July, lifted by auto production



A worker helps assemble a helicopter at the AgustaWestland's aircraft manufacturing facility, in Philadelphia. Auto plants, clothing makers and plastics factories drove a sharp rebound in U.S. manufacturing in July, according to industrial production figures released by the Federal Reserve, Friday, Aug. 14, 2015. (AP Photo/Matt Rourke)

JOSH BOAK

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Auto

plants, clothing makers and plastics factories drove a sharp rebound in

U.S. manufacturing in July. U.S. factory production climbed a seasonally adjusted 0.8 percent last month after a revised estimate showed that output

had dipped 0.3 percent in June, the Federal Reserve said Friday. The gains suggested that manufacturers are adjusting to the obstacles of a stronger dollar,

tepid economic growth abroad and lower oil prices, which have led energy companies to slash their orders for equipment and pipelines.

"Industrial production is turning around after weakness in early 2015," said Stuart Hoffman, chief economist at PNC Financial Services.

Much of the improvement came from motor vehicle output, which surged 10.6 percent in July. Auto sales jumped 5 percent to 1.5 million, with luxury brands such as Acura, Audi, Infiniti, Lincoln and Volvo accounting for double-digit gains.

Output at clothing and leather factories rose 1 percent last month, as did the manufacturing of plastics and rubber products. Some of those gains were offset by reduced output by oil and coal refiners, as well as by a drop in pro-

ductivity at machinery plants.

Some analysts suggested that the gains in auto production weren't as impressive as the numbers might indicate. Jesse Hurwitz at Barclays Research noted that auto plants generally close temporarily in July to retool for new model lines and that the shutdown this year was shorter than normal. This would mean that the Fed report exaggerated the gains in motor vehicle output last month and that auto production might dip in August.

The Federal Reserve said overall industrial production — which includes not only the key category of manufacturing but also mining and utility output — rose 0.6 percent. Mining, which includes oil and gas wells, rose 0.2 percent last month but remains down 2 percent over the past 12 months. □

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



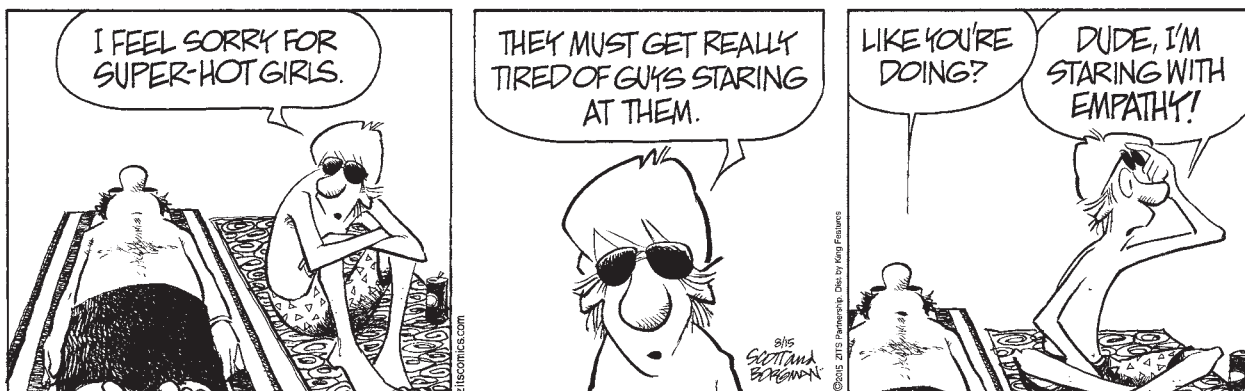
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		1		5		9		
			2		9			
6		8				2		3
	6						7	
8				2				9
	4						2	
1		5				8		6
			8		5			
		3		9		5		

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

8/15

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

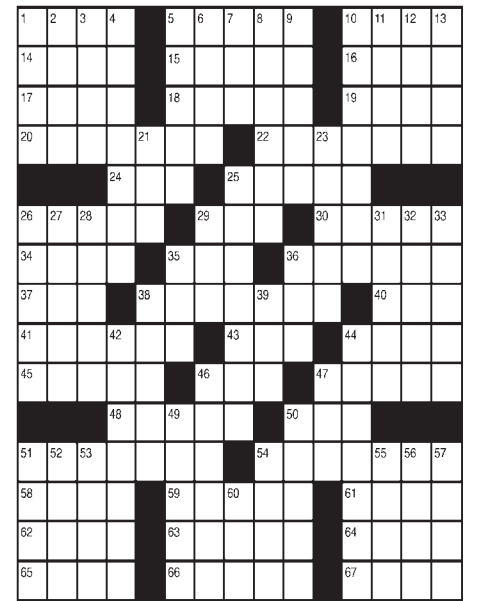
8	9	4	5	2	1	3	7	6
1	7	5	9	6	3	2	4	8
3	2	6	4	7	8	5	1	9
6	8	2	3	5	4	1	9	7
9	5	7	2	1	6	8	3	4
4	3	1	7	8	9	6	5	2
7	6	9	8	3	5	4	2	1
2	1	3	6	4	7	9	8	5
5	4	8	1	9	2	7	6	3

ACROSS

- Skunk's defense
- Can wrapper
- Feels sick
- Merlot or rosé
- In the know
- Orem's state
- Tennis court dividers
- ___ firma; land
- Chop finely
- Larry, Moe and Curly Joe
- Warned
- Bar soap brand
- Beginning
- Valuable thing
- Soft wet dirt
- Lasso's loop
- Element whose symbol is Pb
- Blind as a ___
- Wave rider
- Social insect
- Biblical story with a moral
- Fawn's color
- ___ & groaned; complained
- Fellow
- Place to buy salami & rye
- "To be ___ to be..." (Hamlet)
- Lion's lair
- Dishwasher cycle
- Flower holders
- Pres. Arthur's monogram
- Wrap
- Safety glasses
- Bridal headwear
- Provide food for a banquet
- Italy's capital
- Vane direction
- Swedish dollar
- Border on
- Remain
- Iron alloy
- Disarray
- Hold ___; keep shoe bottoms
- Installed new shoe bottoms
- Glove material
- Amazes
- Tavern
- Gofer's task
- Directs
- Financial book reviewer
- "___ what it is"
- Filly trimming
- Lean-to
- Stomach
- Trial setting
- Electrical failures
- Remembered Texas mission
- Málaga mister
- Hell's ruler
- Deface
- Frequently
- Makes airtight
- Pyle or Els
- ___ blood; mutual hostility
- As ___ as a fox
- Part of a flower

DOWN

- Possesses
- Count calories



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/15/15

Friday's Puzzle Solved

PLOT	AGLOW	TYPO
HORA	CREDO	REAP
IBEX	CONDOL	ENCE
LEG	TROD	EBSEN
	ODIUM	TEE
FINALE	BECKON	
AGILE	TORAH	PER
SLAY	CANAL	LEVI
TON	FAMED	KAREN
OSCARS	LIZARD	
	ADS	TOLET
SHORE	REAL	ITS
WIDESPREAD	TOOL	
ADDS	RAISE	ANTI
BESS	OWNER	USED

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8/15/15

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 39 Bread tray item | 51 Arden & Plumb |
| 42 Conversation piece | 52 Shipshape |
| 44 Explanatory chart | 53 Passport stamp |
| 46 Leave | 54 Trait carrier |
| 47 Cleaning cloth | 55 Part of the ear |
| 49 Punches | 56 Huge birds from Australia |
| 50 Shade of pink | 57 Collections |
| | 60 Foot digit |



North Koreans applaud during a ceremony marking the new time zone, Saturday, Aug. 15, 2015, in Pyongyang, North Korea. Bells were rung and celebrations were held at midnight as the nation's clocks were set back 30 minutes to mark the Aug. 15, 1945 anniversary of the Korean Peninsula's liberation from colonial rule at the end of World War II.

(AP Photo/Dita Alangkara)

North Korea celebrates new time zone, 'Pyongyang Time'

ERIC TALMADGE

Associated Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea

(AP) — North Korea now has its own time zone.

Bells were rung in Pyongyang and celebrations held at midnight as the nation's clocks were set back 30 minutes to mark the Aug. 15, 1945 anniversary of the Korean Peninsula's liberation from colonial rule at the end of World War II. Previously, both Korea and Japan shared the same time zone, nine hours ahead of GMT, which was established under Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule.

North Korea's decision to change its time zone, announced last week, came as a surprise even to South Korea, whose president criticized Pyongyang for not coordinating the move with Seoul.

But the effort to erase the legacy of the colonial period resonates with many Koreans on both sides of the Demilitarized Zone who remember the harsh rule of the Japanese and continue to harbor deep resentment toward Tokyo.

"This is a great event in the history of the Korean nation, as it is of great significance in completely eradicating the leftovers of the Japanese imperialists in all fabrics of social life," the North's state-run Korean Central News Agency said in a commentary earlier this week. The new time zone, which North Korea calls "Pyongyang Time," was adopted by the then-unified Korea in 1908, but changed to the Japanese time zone on Jan. 1, 1912, two years after the peninsula was colonized. □

Classifieds

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3 BEDRM OV \$17k

Marriott Aruba Ocean club

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1B Oceanfront \$8500

PLATINUM Season

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30	311	\$5,000
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10 years after Katrina, Louisiana's towns melting into sea

CAIN BURDEAU
Associated Press

DELACROIX, Louisiana (AP) — Many of the fishermen who once lived in this small Louisiana fishing town have disappeared, fleeing behind the levees protecting New Orleans out of fear one more hurricane will send the rest of Delacroix into the sea.

Ten years after Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Gulf Coast, killing more than 1,830 people and causing more than \$150 billion in damage in the nation's costliest disaster, New Orleans has been fortified by a new \$14.5 billion flood protection system. But outside the city, efforts have lagged to protect small towns and villages losing land every year to erosion. And as that land buffer disappears, New Orleans becomes more vulnerable. In the past century, more than 1,880 square miles (4,870 sq. kilometers) of Louisiana land has turned into open water. An average 17 square miles disappear annually, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

Katrina itself caused about 190 square miles of land erosion in just days, the loss of an area bigger than New Orleans itself.

Now, cemeteries are disappearing into the Gulf. Entire barrier island chains, lighthouses, bridges, roads, schools and entire towns have been washed away. "We're losing the cultural fabric of south Louisiana," said Jessica Schexnayder, a researcher with the Louisiana State University Sea Grant program. "It's not just whether the land will disappear, it's about when it's going to be gone." Scientists say many factors, most of them man-

made, have caused the rapid loss of wetlands. There's sea-level rise (estimates of 3 feet or more in the next century), the natural sinking of the delta, ongoing damage from oil drilling (more than 10,000

lines and wetlands loss due to urban development. "The best hope for these communities, and this includes New Orleans, is getting behind a very aggressive delta restoration program," said Jim Tripp,

has established new agencies focused on coastal restoration, launched pilot projects to reclaim open water by pumping in mud and developed a 50-year, \$50 billion master plan to reverse land loss.

Along the 150-mile-wide delta, people are leaving generations-old homesteads and moving behind the newly fortified levees. Lester Ansardi, a 66-year-old crabber who moved behind the floodwalls,



An abandoned boat lies on the bank of Grand Bayou, La., Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2015. In the past century, more than 1,880 square miles of Louisiana land has turned into open water — an area nearly the size of Delaware.

Associated Press

miles of oil canals crisscross the coast), and repeated hurricane damage (six hurricanes have ravaged Louisiana's coast in the past decade). Add to that the clear-cut logging that wiped out the swamp forests at the end of the 1800s, the spaghetti-like network of gas pipe-

a senior counsel for the Environmental Defense Fund who sits on panels exploring coastal restoration plans. Since the early 1990s, the government has spent billions on coastal works to slow land loss, but the Gulf inexorably advances. Since Katrina, Louisiana

None of it has worked so far. Scientists say Katrina was especially destructive because of the disappearance of all the buffer land, which helped keep a deadly hurricane that landed a century ago from flooding New Orleans.

points to the rising height of the stilts that Delacroix houses sit on to avoid flooding. "When we grew up, there were no houses higher than 10 feet off the ground," Ansardi said. "After Betsy houses went up 12 foot. Now, they're 20 feet high." □

Jimi Hendrix family members settle dispute over estate

SEATTLE (AP) — A family dispute over the estate of guitarist Jimi Hendrix has been settled.

The Seattle Times reports the July settlement between Hendrix's adopted sister, Janie Hendrix, and his brother, Leon Hendrix, was announced this week.

Experience Hendrix LLC owns the rights to the Hendrix estate and is controlled by Janie Hendrix. It settled out of court with Hendrix-Licensing.com, which is operated by Leon Hendrix. The settlement was for damages associated with the sale of merchandise that capitalized on Hendrix's fame.

The amount of the settlement was not disclosed. Leon Hendrix has been



This undated performance photo shows Jimi Hendrix at an unknown location.

Associated Press

fighting his sister in court since Jimi Hendrix died in 1970 without a will. When Jimi Hendrix's father, James "Al" Hendrix, died in 2002, he left the estimated \$80-million estate to Janie Hendrix. □

Johnny Depp makes surprise appearance at Disney convention



Actor Johnny Depp, left, makes a surprise appearance at Disney's D23 Expo, a fan convention, to accept the Disney Legend Award honor from Disney CEO Bob Iger on Friday, Aug. 14, 2015, in Anaheim, Calif.

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Although he might have been one in spirit, Johnny Depp is now a Disney Legend in title too. The actor made a surprise appearance at Disney's D23 Expo, a fan convention, to accept the honor from Disney CEO Bob Iger on Friday. Depp has starred in Disney's "Pirates of the Carib-

bean" series as Captain Jack Sparrow as well as their live-action "Alice in Wonderland" as the Mad Hatter.

The actor said that he doesn't like the words "fan" or "legend" but thanked the 7,500 audience members for giving him the "opportunity to do stupid stuff for a living." □

Gina Rodriguez looks ahead to season 2 of 'Jane the Virgin'



In this Sunday, May 31, 2015, file photo, Gina Rodriguez arrives at the Critics' Choice Television Awards at the Beverly Hilton hotel, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

JOCELYN NOVECK
AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Immaculate conception (sort of). Engagement. Breakup. Childbirth. Kidnapping.

So much has already happened to Gina Rodriguez's character in CW's "Jane the Virgin," it almost seems beyond what one person can manage.

"But she handled it!" Rodriguez laughs triumphantly. And the 31-year-old Golden Globe winner says she can't wait to see what happens in the second season to Jane Villanueva. The only thing she knows for sure: She's gonna be a mom. And she's getting married — though she has no idea to whom. And she's gonna meet Britney Spears, who'll play herself in an upcoming episode.

"The possibilities are endless," Rodriguez said in an interview this week, her famous enthusiasm bubbling forth with every question and even veering briefly into tears.

"I'm VERY excited to have Britney Spears on as a guest," Rodriguez said. "And I'm excited to explore motherhood with Jane ... the issues of motherhood, especially at a younger age like Jane is, and wanting to preserve

her dreams, wanting to preserve herself."

There is, of course, one small wrinkle: Jane's newborn was kidnapped from the hospital at the end of the first season. By someone posing as a nurse. Rodriguez acknowledges some fans were terrified. "We're going to resolve that really quickly," she promised.

There's a lot more Rodriguez is thinking about, besides plot developments. The fast-rising star just finished shooting the film "Deepwater Horizon" opposite Mark Wahlberg. On Sunday, she's co-hosting the Teen Choice Awards. She's also writing a book, titled "I Can and I Will: Tools My Daddy Gave Me."

Beyond all that, Rodriguez sees herself as uniquely positioned to serve as a role model, both for fellow Latinos and for young people everywhere.

"Now I get to use my power for good," Rodriguez said in the interview, at a Manhattan event promoting Crest toothpaste. "If I choose to. And I do! And it makes you feel really good inside, to think that just 30 seconds of my time to talk to a kid, or a minute of my time to answer a few tweets, and the effect that

has."

The Chicago-born Rodriguez, whose parents are from Puerto Rico, earned high praise for her Golden Globes speech, in which she said her award represented "a culture that wants see themselves as heroes." She notes she has turned down roles that she's seen as perpetuating Latino stereotypes.

"I would not be sitting here across from you if I had not decided on my integrity over (such roles)," Rodriguez said. Among a number of issues she wants to be vocal about are the damaging beauty standards young girls are subjected to. "What's beautiful about 'Jane the Virgin' is that we have many forms of beauty and we never discuss why they need to be recognized, they just are," she said. "Jane is not your typical lead actress and we're not harping over what she looks like and what she wears. She's just a beautiful strong girl. She just happens to look not like our typical ingenue. I think that's very powerful." Rodriguez's eyes misted over when she described meeting teens who tell her, "I feel more comfortable in my own skin because of Jane." □

'Show Me a Hero' dramatizes NY affordable housing fight

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) —

The power of writer David Simon's work has drawn remarkable actors to TV dramas including "The Wire" and "Treme."

The latest evidence is "Show Me a Hero," HBO's six-episode miniseries based on a bitter 1980s battle over public housing in Yonkers, New York. It begins this weekend and airs 8-10 p.m. EDT on three consecutive Sundays through Aug. 30.

Even Simon marveled at the cast that includes Oscar Isaac, Alfred Molina, Winona Ryder and Catherine Keener. All that talent for what sounds like — but is far from — a dramatized bureaucratic slog? "It makes no sense. I'm coming with, like, eight hours on botany and seeing who I pull next time," he jokingly told a meeting of the Television Critics Association. Stellar director Paul Haggis also was attracted to the miniseries, based on Lisa Belkin's non-fiction book of the same name that recounted how a federal court order to build low-income housing in white neighborhoods split the city and wrecked its young mayor's career.

Haggis, himself an Academy Award-winning writer (2004's "Crash," also honored as best picture) said



In this July 30, 2015 file photo, actor Alfred Molina, left, and writer David Simon, right, smile while listening to writer/executive producer William F. Zorzi speak onstage during the "Show Me a Hero" panel at the HBO 2015 Summer TCA Tour held at the Beverly Hilton Hotel, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

yes to "Show Me a Hero" before he saw any script, and for one reason.

"David Simon," he said in an interview. "I heard he had a project available and I pitched myself for it." When producers asked which episode he wanted to direct, Haggis replied: "I want to do them all."

This from a man who had only directed films based on his own scripts. And this despite the fact that the modest budget and pace of TV production required taping six to 10 pages of

script a day compared to the relatively leisurely big-screen tally of two to three pages, he said.

"It was very challenging to capture this because, as David likes to joke, his company is the PBS of HBO. You don't get the same kind of budget as if you put a zombie in it, which is natural," said Haggis, hastening to add that HBO was "very good to us."

The result is one of the most intelligent, gripping and provocative projects to grace any screen this

year, a study of the clash of what America is and what it hopes to be, as seen through the eyes of lawmakers, activists and the Yonkers residents caught in the maw of politics and social disruption. Simon and William F. Zorzi co-wrote the miniseries.

"It's a tale of very flawed individuals who are trying to do the right thing from their perspective," Haggis said, including white homeowners who saw themselves as protectors of their neighborhoods and prop-

erty values under assault by housing to be placed throughout the city, not solely in poorer areas.

The miniseries has a cinema verite feel, which Haggis said he felt was important given the subject matter: "I was being handed the truth in the script... but I had to make it feel real," he said.

In crowd scenes, for example, the goal was for every frame to appear as "imperfect" as possible.

"I wanted to make you (the viewer) feel like you were part of it."

There's always someone or something between you and what you see," such as a microphone or even a pole partly obscuring an actor's face, he said.

It creates a sense of urgency as well as realism, and that's appropriate for an issue that remains pertinent. Although decades have passed since the Yonkers clash, the fight for affordable public housing continues elsewhere in U.S. cities, Simon said.

"It happened in Baltimore County (Maryland) when they tried to put scattered site housing in my city," he said, adding, "We are not good at sharing in this country. We are not very good at it anymore. There was a moment in time where the idea of a societal of a shared America was plausible." □



In this May 12, 2014 file photo, The Tonight Show host Jimmy Fallon attends the NBC Network 2014 Upfront presentation at the Javits Center in New York.

Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Just a few months after Jimmy Fallon marked his

first anniversary as host of "The Tonight Show," NBC has signed him for six more

6 more years of nights hosting 'Tonight Show' for Fallon

years. Calling him "the best there is," NBC entertainment chairman Bob Greenblatt said Fallon, who turns 41 next month, will occupy the "Tonight" host chair until at least 2021.

Speaking to TV critics on Thursday, Greenblatt also announced that Rihanna will join "The Voice" as key adviser to the panel of judges, who will be Adam Levine, Blake Shelton, Pharrell and Gwen Stefani.

He said new additions to the

cast of the holiday production of "The Wiz Live!" include "Hairspray" co-star Elijah Kelley (in the role of the Scarecrow), singer-songwriter-actor Ne-Yo

(as the Tin Man) and Oscar-winning songwriter and actor Common, who will play the Gatekeeper to Emerald City. Previously announced cast members

in the musical production, airing live Dec. 3, include Queen Latifah, Mary J. Blige, David Alan Grier, Uzo Aduba, Amber Riley, Stephanie Mills and

Shanice Williams as Dorothy. Greenblatt also had two words on whether Republican presidential hopeful Donald Trump would ever return as host of

"The Celebrity Apprentice": "Absolutely not."

Greenblatt said the show will not be back next season, but will return in the future with a new host.

He didn't speculate on whom that host might be, but said, "We're obviously looking for a host who will make noise and is a big personality." □

Are there signs of Kardashian Fatigue? Ask John Brown

LEANNE ITALIE

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Blame the bunny.

Kylie Jenner's new bunny, to be exact. Kylie Jenner's new bunny is called Bruce, the same name that used to belong to her parent, Caitlyn Jenner, who racked up massive ratings for the premiere of her new reality show as a trans woman after racking up massive sales of Vanity Fair with her recent coming-out cover. That's the same Caitlyn who is the stepparent of Kim Kardashian, who — also recently — took on haters claiming she's faking her latest pregnancy when she posed naked at six months along for her zillionth social media selfie. That's the same selfie that has more than 1.7 million likes on Instagram.

You get the picture. But back to the rabbit.

John Brown, an anchorman in Florida on Fox's "Good Day Orlando," reached his limit of non-story Kardashian stories three days ago when he walked off the set upon news of the rabbit, and the rabbit's name.

"I don't care! I'm sick of this family. I can't take it anymore," he ranted.

That's the same rant that scored John Brown nearly 3 million views on YouTube, a mention on late-night TV and numerous follow-up interviews. Those are the same interviews that have John Brown so busy doing interviews that he now has a Fox corporate public relations person scheduling all his interviews. You get the picture.

Brown's mad-as-hell moment, along with a 22-year-old entrepreneur's new "KardBlock," an Internet browser extension that filters out the Jenners and the Kardashians, has some people wondering about Kardashian Fatigue and whether it's finally setting in, both among fans and those of us who don't stalk said Klan on social media, shop at their boutiques, watch their TV shows or worship at the celebrity

gossip altar.

"I'm not saying anything that a lot of other people haven't said," Brown explained to his big-league counterparts on Fox's "Good Day LA" in his rant's aftermath. "Why it resonated with people right now, I have no idea. ... I have nothing against the Kardashians. They're doing what they should do, right? They're a business. My point is why do we feel the need to cover every single story, including the naming of a rabbit?"

Why, indeed, John Brown. But what is more important, at least to some, is this question: Will the Kardashians ever fade away? Like, for good.

Tom Nunan, a lecturer at the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television with a long resume in film and TV entertainment, doesn't think so. He has a two-word explanation for the world's prolonged Kardashian-Jenner moment. It's "sui generis," or Latin for don't hold your breath. Not really. What it means is this moment is unique, in a class of its own.

"It's so vast," he said Wednesday by phone from Los Angeles. "Because there are so many members of this clan, our attention can bounce from one to the next to the



In this July 15, 2015 file photo, Caitlyn Jenner accepts the Arthur Ashe award for courage at the ESPY Awards at the Microsoft Theater, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

lary relieved by dropping one Kardashian/Jenner for another.

"But I think there's something else going on here that makes this a completely unusual and one-of-a-kind supernova, if you will," Nunan offered. "They have this uncanny ability to mix celebrity with taboo behavior in a way that has the mainstream completely embracing them."

Not all, of course, embrace the Js and the Ks, but enough do to make non-fans queasy.



In this July 18, 2015 file photo, Kendall Jenner, left, and Kylie Jenner arrive at the special screening of "Paper Towns" held at The London Hotel in West Hollywood, Calif.

Associated Press

next to the next."

What he means is: Kardashian Fatigue may not lead to a permanent exit because it can be regu-

"If they start to actually not pose naked when they're pregnant, then we might lose interest, but the more they just keep pushing the

temptation that is the Kardashians is really tough. They represent pure temptation, whether you're an alcoholic, a drug addict or a Kardashian addict. It's like eating ice cream all day long, every day. There's nothing good in that for you whatsoever."

For his trouble in attempting to help out on the K-fatigue front, Shamsi said he has received three deaths threats and one phone call to "watch out" after word of his KardBlock spread recently. He came up with the idea because "pretty much every news site I visited was the Kardashians," he said via email. "It frustrated me because there are so many more important things happening in the world."

Mary Murphy is a senior



In this Thursday, April 9, 2015, file photo, Kim Kardashian, waving, and sister Khloe Kardashian walk in Victory Park while filming in Yerevan, Armenia.

Associated Press

envelope, we'll continue to check it out, because we're all too afraid to do the things that they do. And they're pretty when they do it," Nunan said.

Not John Brown's rant, not young James Shamsi's KardBlock tool (two months old with more than 2,400 downloads) and not celebrity blogger Perez Hilton's vow of a weeklong "Kardashian Kleanse" can convince Nunan that recent evidence of K-fatigue will lead to The End.

"I don't think there is sign enough," he said. "The

lecturer at the University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. She has also been an entertainment reporter for more than two decades. Millennials will decide when K-mania is over because they're among the most passionate K-people, she said.

"And they don't take a break because of fatigue. They just drop people off the face of the Earth. It's like one minute you're in, one minute you're out," Murphy said. □

Sushi showdown: Women challenge one of Japan's male bastions

YURI KAGEYAMA
AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Some jobs in Japan, a nation known for its poor record on gender equality, have been off limits to women for ages. The sushi counter, for one.

customers, and they're kind and gentle," said Yuki Chidui, 28, sushi chef and manager at the all-women Nadeshico sushi restaurant in Tokyo. Unlike the usual "itamae," as sushi chefs are called,

She said people have ridiculed her restaurant when they walk in. Sometimes male customers taunt her and ask: "Can you really do it?" There are no official statistics on the number of fe-

ready stagnant economy would only get worse unless women are freed from their status of homemaker and child-bearer to contribute more to production and growth. The government wants

ed to deliveries and dishwashing.

Masayuki Tsukada, 34, who started training to become a sushi chef at 18, shrugs off how there are so few female colleagues.

"It's just prejudice," he said, stressing that what counts is experience, such as being able to talk and keep straight all the orders and names of fish at the same time as well as preparing the sushi in front of the customer.

Establishments where Tsukada and other professionals work charge 10,000 yen (\$100) or more for dinner, about three times what Nadeshico charges. Their menus tend to be fancier, with exotic fish, such as marbled tuna or rare types of baby fish.

But the profession is gradually opening up. Tokyo Sushi Academy offers two-month crash courses in sushi-dom, with about a fifth of the Japanese students being female. A third of the students from abroad are women.

"More women are accepted as sushi chefs at casual restaurants, and more so abroad than they are in Japan. The traditional sushi places are still male-dominated," said Sachiko Goto, the academy's principal.

Still, those enjoying their meal at Nadeshico said they liked what they were getting.

"This tastes so good," said Masataka Nakayama, 40, a physical therapist, guzzling down beer and sushi. He came from Sendai, northeastern Japan, on the bullet train with his friend to check out back-to-back concerts by AKB 48, a female singing-and-dance group.

Sushi at Nadeshico, served by women, who didn't seem that different from AKB 48 members, seemed the perfect way to end the visit, he said.

Chidui laments how some Japanese are forgetting the delights of sushi, a dish that's deceptively simple but requires a lot of preparation ahead of time to deliver a fine but varied taste. □



Yuki Chidui, sushi chef and manager at Nadeshico sushi restaurant, shows off a set of sushi she made at her all-women restaurant in Tokyo. Deeply rooted stereotypes such as the so-called "Edo-style" macho demeanor of sushi chefs and belief that warmer body temperature of women leads to inferior taste have kept sushi preparation an almost exclusively male domain in Japan. But some women are out to challenge tradition and are learning the art of sushi at a time when the government is emphasizing a greater role for women to offset Japan's shrinking workforce.
(AP Photo/Koji Sasahara)

Sushi is emblematic of Japan's profound cultural influence globally. It has crossed borders, acquiring non-Japanese ingredients such as avocado in the process. That, however, is the limit of the cultural interchange.

Deeply rooted stereotypes such as the so-called "Edo-style" macho demeanor of sushi chefs and belief women's warmer body temperature leads to inferior taste have kept sushi preparation an almost exclusively male domain in Japan.

But some women are out to challenge tradition. They're learning the art of sushi at a time when the government is emphasizing a greater role for women to offset Japan's shrinking workforce.

"I think women are better at communicating with

with their closely cropped hair and crisp cocky language, Chidui is soft-spoken and almost child-like, wearing a white summer kimono splashed with pink blossoms.

She has purposely avoided trying to look the part. Her store's motto is "fresh and kawaii," or "cute." Flyers depict her as a doe-eyed manga character. Chidui's assistant, who switched from working as a tour-bus guide two months ago, wears "manga" buttons on her outfit.

Chidui had been in a rut and felt confined working at a department store when she decided to gamble on starting her own business. It hasn't been easy.

She has endured insults and blatant questioning of her abilities since opening Nadeshico five years ago.

male sushi chefs in Japan but they are rare, according to the All Japan Sushi Association, which groups 5,000 sushi restaurant owners nationwide and estimates Japan has 35,000 sushi chefs in total. Forbidding women in certain spots dates back centuries in Japan, where culture viewed menstruation as tainted, a primordial fear Western feminists have also historically had to debunk.

The sumo ring is another place billed as too sacred for women. These days women routinely take part in amateur sumo, but the number of female professional sumo wrestlers still remains zero.

In recent years, the Japanese government has made encouraging women in the workforce its mission, seeing that an al-

women to fill 30 percent of leadership positions by 2020, an ambitious goal given that women now make up only 8 percent of such positions in companies hiring 100 people or more.

Even within that effort, there is no crackdown on specific industries barring women, said Takaaki Kakinuma, an official at the government Gender Equality Bureau Cabinet Office.

"The initiative is about getting women in leadership positions," he said.

Becoming a sushi chef is an arduous process, requiring several years to learn how to ball up a decent "nigiri"sushi, and at least a decade to properly run a restaurant. Chefs-in-training usually aren't permitted to hold a knife for the first year, getting allocat-